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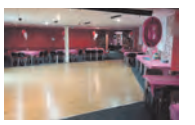
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School's garden tribute

Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Nikki Hennessy with Woodland pupils and headmaster Mr Millar 1086258

PUPILS at a Skelmersdale school have created their own memorial garden in honour of people from the town who lost their lives fighting for their country in the First World War.

The garden at Woodland Community Primary in Heathgate was opened by members of the Skelmersdale Ex–servicemen's Association who attended a special assembly at the school.

The idea for the garden was first put forward last year when the 100th anniversary of the start of the 'Great War' was marked by events thoughout the country.

Since then pupils and teachers at Woodland have made almost 400 ceramic poppies – similar to those featured in displays at the Tower of London and St George's Hall in Liverpool – with the help of artist Kerry Machin from Crawford Village.

Kerry worked with all the classes at the school and some of the poppies were placed on metal sticks in the garden, while others have been placed on a wall inside the school.

Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Nikki Hennessy also visited the school and was given a guided tour while members of the school council told her about the poppies and how they were made.

Deputy head at Woodland, Keeley Taberner, said: "The memorial garden will serve as a permanent reminder of the people from Skelmersdale who lost their lives in the war."

DON'T LET THIEVES SPOIL CHRISTMAS!

Spate of thefts from unlocked cars prompts police alert to residents

By Henry James

POLICE are urging Skelmersdale residents not to let criminals spoil their Christmas after a spate of thefts from unlocked vehicles in the Ashurst area of the town over the weekend.

The incidents all took place in the early hours of Sunday, November 29, round about 5am, in Mountwood and the surrounding streets with the thieves making off with personal effects from what appeared to be unlocked cars.

And with the run–up to the festive season now underway in earnest officers are urging residents to make doubly sure that their properties and vehicles are properly secured to prevent opportunist thieves targeting them.

This is the time of year when items such as Christmas presents left in cars during festive shopping trips could be particularly at risk.

Police officers were out in Ashurst this week as part of scheme called Operation Cannon to check that residents are locking garages and cars.

A spokesman for Skelmersdale Police, writing on the force's Facebook page, commented: "Be aware – over the weekend at least five vehicles have been entered having been left insecure in the Ashurst area.

"CCTV images show that two figures (we are not able to better describe them) have been trying door handles and boots to help themselves to the contents.

"Please don't let them spoil your Christmas. Ensure you secure your car and property at all times."

And Sergeant Andy Bramhall from Skelmersdale Police told the Champion: "We would appeal to people to secure homes, garages and vehicles. It is never a good time to be the victim of crime but in the run–up to Christmas the effects of crime could be even worse.

"We ran Operation Cannon on the Ashurst estate this week and were out checking car and garage doors. When we found any that were insecure we were urging residents to lock them as a criminal could have tried the locks.

"CCTV pictures from the incidents over the weekend show two people and we have a good idea who they might be.

"We are appealing to anyone who may know something to come forward and help us solve these crimes."

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Police launch annual crackdown on drink and drug driving

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

LANCASHIRE Constabulary have lunched their annual December drink and drug driving crackdown.

The festive campaign, which aims to educate drivers about the dangers of drinking and taking drugs before driving, will see police carrying out roadside checks at locations across the county.

Officers will use saliva testing kits alongside the standard breath tests, meaning motorists will be tested for alcohol, cannabis and cocaine.

Modelled on drink–driving tests, the legislation, which was introduced on March 2 this year, makes it an offence for motorists to drive with certain drugs above a specified level in their blood.

Last year, a total of 5,012 drink drive tests were carried out across the county in December with 153 people failing the test and four refusing to provide a specimen.

Inspector Andy Trotter from the constabulary's Road Policing Unit, said: "This Christmas will be the first year we have used the new drug–testing kits alongside standard kits for alcohol testing, which means we are better equipped than ever to identify those who take this very dangerous risk.

"We will also be focusing our activity on late–night revellers who may still be over the limit the morning after and we are particularly keen to get the message across to young drivers, who may be tempted to take the risk.

"If you drive at twice the legal alcohol limit you are at least 30 times more likely to cause a road traffic collision than a driver who hasn't been drinking, potentially resulting in serious injury or death.

"We are determined to keep our roads safe, whether that is at night or the morning after and we will be working throughout the festive period to keep the public safe. We want people to enjoy the festive season but to remember the consequences of driving whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

"If you're out partying this Christmas then please plan ahead and book a taxi, check public transport times or don't drink. If you know of someone who is driving under the influence of drink or drugs then please do the right thing and call us on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously, before they kill themselves or somebody else."

Concert in aid of church roof appeal

LOCAL charity choir, The Occasional Singers, are holding a festive concert at St Anne's RC Church in Prescot Road, Ormskirk on Friday (December 4) starting at 7.30pm.

Tickets for the concert cost £6 and are available on the door with all proceeds going to the church roof appeal.

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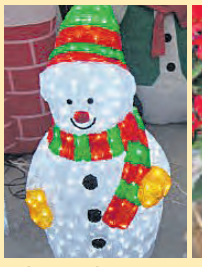
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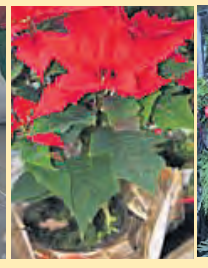
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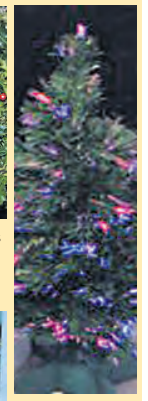
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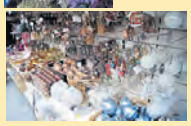
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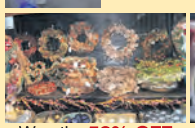
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Single mum left with sour taste after festive hamper letdown

Report by **Henry James**

SARAH Potts thought she had got her Christmas food shopping all sorted out after paying £30 a week since January towards a bumper hamper.

But she was left in tears when it arrived last week – because, she claims, about £100 worth of the goods she was expecting, mostly frozen meats, was missing!

The 43–year–old disabled single mother from Birch Green usually cooks Christmas dinner for between 15 and 20 family and friends but says she doesn't know what she is going to do this year as she can't afford to replace the missing items.

Sarah Potts with a brochure showing what should have been included in her Christmas hamper **Code1086282**

RUINED

Sarah told the Champion: "When the hamper arrived and stuff I was expecting wasn't in it, I was in tears. I rang up the hamper company but all I got was an apology and the offer of £35 in shopping vouchers.

"That nowhere near covers the value of the stuff that is missing which must be about £125. What they show in their pictures and on their literature is not what you get.

"I've been paying £30 a week to an agent since January and never missed an instalment. This is the first year I've been involved and I won't be doing it again. I normally save with Iceland for Christmas.

"I had been looking forward to receiving the hamper for months but now I feel like our Christmas has been ruined. We would have used the meat on Christmas Day when I normally cook for between 15 and 20 people."

When contacted by the Champion a spokesperson for the hamper company, Park Group plc, declined to comment on the matter.

Helping hand for council tenants bidding to get a foot on property ladder

COUNCIL tenants in West Lancashire who are eligible to buy their home but don't want to buy the property they live in, can now apply for a £20,000 grant to help them on to the property ladder.

The government–funded scheme was launched earlier this year and the council is currently progressing applications for five interested parties in the borough. The scheme remains open to other tenants and Councillor Jenny Patterson, the council's portfolio holder for housing, said: "This is a great opportunity for council tenants who want to buy their own home – so please get in touch to see if you are eligible."

Tenants can apply for a one–off cash payment which replaces the 'Right to Buy' discount they are entitled to. Successful applicants use the £20,000 payment towards buying a home on the open market, releasing their council home for another applicant on the Housing Register.

Funding is aimed at tenants who are able to support a mortgage but may not want to buy the property they are living in. This could benefit older people wishing to buy smaller properties or be nearer family, or someone looking to move to take up a job opportunity.

West Lancs Council has secured funding to help 10 families and invites eligible tenants to contact them.

Anyone interested and thinks they qualify can email Admin–Housing&Regen @westlancs.gov.uk or ring 01695 585211.

Union's triple boost for local charities

GMB union officials preent the cheques to representatives of the three charities **Code1086205**

THREE local charities have been given a welcome boost – courtesy of the West Lancashire branch of the GMB union.

The union made donations of £200 to Birchwood, based in Birch Green, Skelmersdale, which works with young people to prevent homelessness; Digmoor Food Bank; and the Quarry Bank Community Centre.

The cheques were handed over at a meeting at Up Holland Labour Club on Tuesday, November 24.

Criminal Behaviour Order issued to man, 31,

A SKELMERSDALE man involved in drug–related activity and anti–social behaviour has been given a Criminal Behaviour Order.

Dale Baker, 31, of Abbeywood, was handed the order at Ormskirk Magistrates Court following a successful application by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and officers from Operation Nemesis, a team dedicated to disrupting and dismantling those involved in organised crime and anti–social behaviour.

The order is in place until further notice and prohibits Baker from doing anything of the following:

- Acting or inciting others to act in an anti–social manner.
- Being in a vehicle with more than one other person within West Lancashire.
- Being in possession of any equipment for the use in the manufacture, cultivation, administration or distribution of any class A or B drugs or legal high substances.
- Being in possession of a mobile phone not registered to him.

Sergeant Bernie Coburn, of Operation Nemesis Skelmersdale, said: "Baker has been involved in drug–related activity and anti–social behaviour that has caused much annoyance and upset to the community in this area.

"I hope that our successful application for this order will go some way to help reassure residents within Skelmersdale that we do not and will not tolerate this sort of behaviour.

"I would urge the community to report any breaches of the order to us as soon as possible."

If Baker breaks his Criminal Behaviour Order he risks arrest and prosecution.

Any breach can be reported to the local neighbourhood policing team in Skelmersdale in confidence on 01695 566051 or email CJ.NPT@lancashire.pnn.police.uk.

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County's £65m cuts package approved

PROPOSALS aimed at saving £65million over the next two years have been approved by Lancashire County Council.

The plans, which include the closure of 40 of the county's libraries and withdrawal of all funding for subsidised bus services, are part of measures the council says it is being forced to adopt to tackle a potential funding gap of £262 million by April 2020.

More than 360 full–time jobs will be axed as a result of the plans, in addition to the 1,100 staff who have already left the authority since January 2014 on voluntary redundancy.

Although county chiefs have not yet disclosed which libraries will be closed at least two and possibly three of the five in West Lancashire could be threatened.

The 34 remaining libraries would be allocated one each to 34 designated 'service planning areas' including Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Newburgh and West Lancashire West. It is hoped the move would save the authority somewhere in the region of £7million.

Councillors also agreed to remove funding for all subsidised bus services in the county, an annual saving £7.5million, a move that could affect some unprofitable routes serving outlying areas of the borough.

County Cllr. David Borrow

County Councillor Jennifer Mein, leader of the county council, said: "The decisions we have taken are heartbreaking but reflect the unprecedented financial situation we face. Even with these measures we still face a funding gap of nearly £200m by 2020 so unless central government has a change of heart there will be harder decisions to take in future."

And deputy leader David Borrow, cabinet member with responsibility for finance and property, added: "These plans are striking but they represent less than a quarter of the savings we have to find by 2020. And we know that we will still face a shortfall of £56m in 2018/19.

"We will have to look at the detail of the Chancellor's announcement that we can raise council tax by 2% to go towards adult social care. This may go some way to alleviate pressures in that area but won't solve what has been chronic underfunding for these vital services."

Other proposals agreed included removing the subsidy for discretionary denominational transport and reducing the Highways budget by £2.8m.

Meanwhile, the cabinet also approved plans to achieve a long–term reduction in the county's corporate property portfolio. Under this strategy, public services would be delivered from a network of multi–functional neighbourhood centres, determined on the basis of the needs of local communities.

Cllr. Borrow said: "The proposal to establish neighbourhood centres and reduce the number of buildings we operate is a key tool in helping to cope with the huge financial challenges we face. This is the start of a process that will include consultation with local people and partners."

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New support group formed to fight cannabis addiction

Report by **Henry James**

A GROUP has been set up in Skelmersdale to help people suffering from cannabis addiction.

Cannabis Action Now (CAN) is based at the Discover Drug and Alcohol Centre situated at Sandy Lane shopping centre directly above the postal office upstairs.

The group holds weekly meetings every Thursday at 10.30am run by Andrew McMaster and fellow volunteer, Alan Morris.

Andrew McMaster said: "The group, to my knowledge, is the first of its kind. At the meetings our aim is to provide free, confidential support to those suffering from cannabis addiction.

"The support offered at the group is 100% non–judgemental and can range from simply having a cup of tea or coffee and a talk with like–minded people who are trying to quit cannabis, to helping each other by discussing reasons for wanting to quit.

"We will also offer coping strategies and tips on moving forward to becoming a recovered cannabis user.

"Cannabis use has become an increasingly bigger problem within our community and it is now the most widely–used illegal substance in Britain.

"In the past cannabis was thought to be non–addictive. However, research has shown that it can be addictive, particularly if a person has been using it regularly for quite a while. About 10% of regular cannabis users are thought to become dependent.

"I want the wider community to know about our group as I am sure there are people out there in the community who would want to come along and could take comfort in knowing they have somewhere to turn for help should they wish to do so."

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Recycling firm's helping hand for 'neighbours'

Viridor staff hand over the cheque at Twinkle House

A SKELMERSDALE–based charity that provides free sensory–based personalised support services for children and young people up to the age of 19 with disabilities and additional needs in West Lancashire and neighbouring areas, has received a four–figure boost from a neighbouring company.

Staff at UK recycling and renewable energy company, Viridor, who have a site in the town, donated a cheque for £1,480 to Twinkle House.

The money was raised as part of a charity rewards scheme introduced by Viridor in December last year with employees nationwide raising more than £38,000 in the first period of the scheme.

In Skelmersdale, where in excess of 30,000 tonnes of plastic bottles and material are processed into high–quality polymer products each year at the company's Gerrard Place site, it was decided to support Twinkle House.

Staff said making the decision to support Twinkle House was easy, because of the "fantastic work" they do in the local community.

The charity, based at Gorsey Place, East Gillibrands, needs to collect £50,000 a year to pay for the running costs of the service.

A spokesman for Viridor commented: "Such is the quality of the care Twinkle House provides, children come from across the North West to spend time at the centre and interact with the stimulating facilities."

Councillor's backing for Youth group Wales project

SKELMERSDALE Action For Youth (SAY) are set to run a residential weekend in North Wales for 16 young people from the town – thanks to a helping hand from County Councillor Terry Aldridge.

Cllr. Aldridge has made a donation to the charity from his Small Grant Fund to support the event when the youngsters will be encouraged to take part in activities including canoeing, and climbing.

They will also be able to take part in team games and personal development activities and will learn to cook for the other participants.

Invited

Cllr. Terry Aldridge said: "It is great to see voluntary group take young people away to take part in positive activities.

"SAY also want the young people to get involved in volunteering. They run programmes where people can do 100 and 200–hour voluntary service schemes."

Alan Lewis from SAY said: "We would like to Councillor Terry Aldridge for his support."

Meanwhile, Alan Lewis was invited by manager Andy Brandy to open the renovated Halifax branch at the Concourse in Skelmersdale.

Earlier this year the dedicated youth worker was named as a Halifax Giving Extra Awards regional winner and presented with £300 in vouchers which has allowed SAY to run activities throughout the spring and summer holidays.

Alan also ran a SAY crazy carts project in July at the Halifax's Big Lunch in Coronation Park, Ormskirk.

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New Town heritage project book launched

A HEALTHY crowd defied cold, stormy weather to celebrate the launch of a new publication entitled 'Skelmersdale: A New Town' at the town's library in Southway.

The fully–illustrated, 196–page, hard–backed publication is the result of a two–year Heritage Lottery Fund project delivered by the Glassball Art Projects (GAP) looking into the photographic and oral social history of the new town from its designation in 1961 to the present.

Also in attendance was poet and BBC Radio 4 broadcaster Paul Farley who read an extract of his own new work, 'Planet Skem', which is included in the book.

After the speeches and reading, all who contributed to the book received their personal copies as a thank–you gesture for their efforts.

To deliver the project GAP, worked with the community heritage department at Lancashire County Council, Lancashire Archives and other partners, including West Lancashire College, Cobbs Brow Primary School, Skelmersdale library and the North West Sound and Film Archives.

Paul Farley is shown at the event

David Ball from Glassball Arts Projects said: "We wanted to create an understanding of the town through a collection of photographs, creating a recognition of this heritage from its original designation in 1961 to the present day and with the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund in 2013, we have been able to deliver this project."

An exhibition of prints from the project sited around the library, also accompanied the launch. This exhibition will be available to view until Christmas.

Anyone wishing to purchase a copy of the book should go to www.glassball.org.uk.

The book is also available to view at the library.

Got an interesting story to tell?
Champ Newsdesk 01704 392400

A performance to remember!

The pupils from Holland Moor Primary who performed at the Lancashire Schools Dance Festival

TALENTED youngsters from a local primary school stepped up to the mark in style at the Lancashire Schools Dance Festival.

All schools taking part in the event at the Guild Hall, Preston were tasked to create a dance with a contemporary theme and pupils from Holland Moor Primary performed a lyrical ballet dance representing 'Remembrance'.

Headteacher of the school in Cornbrook, Skelmersdale, Mr Beale, said: "Our children danced so very beautifully. Their piece 'Remembrance' was moving, poignant and performed with a style that appeared effortless, accomplished and complete. Well done to all!"

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1146285

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WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL

Christian group hoping to attract attention

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

MEMBERS of a long–established Christian group in Ormskirk are hoping to attract the attention of local residents when they hold their first open day on Saturday (December 5).

The event, at the Christadelphian Hall on Moorgate, will run from 10am to 4pm and will include free tea and coffee for visitors, displays about charities they support and a chance for the public to learn more about the group, how they baptise people, what they believe and how they worship.

Organiser, Andrew Fenner believes that many local residents don't know anything about the group even though they have been established in the town for more than 100 years.

He said: "Christadelphians have been in Ormskirk since 1899 and we moved into our current hall in Moorgate in 1922. However, like so many buildings that have been around in the town for a long time, people often walk past and don't even realise it is there.

"We are between the Girl Guide hut and the council car park but very few people seem to even know we are there and fewer still have actually been in.

"So, we are throwing our doors open to invite people to come in and have a look around. It's not a service such as we have on Sundays, it's more a chance to have a good nosey at what we do."

How the Ormskirk Christadelphians Hall looked when they moved in around 1922

Sister Margaret makes festive appeal for vital funds for African orphans

By **Danielle Thompson**

ALTHOUGH Christmas is traditionally a time for family and friends a nun from West Lancashire is urging residents of the borough to spread a little festive cheer further afield this year by making a much–needed donation to an orphanage in Africa.

Sister Margaret Rose first went out to the Democratic Republic of Congo 16 years ago to help launch The Gorsilaure Project, a scheme that aims to to take in destitute children and give them a home and schooling to help them complete their education up to university level.

Run by Father Simon Lumbela at the Gorsilaure Children's Village in Qinsantu, Bas–Congo, the project also runs a hospital with maternity and surgical units, as well as overseeing farming, food–production and manufacturing schemes.

And although she returned to the UK after three year, 73–year–old Sister Rose, who is a member of Sister of Notre Dame religious congregation in Parbold, has continued to work on behalf of the project by seeking to raise its profile in this country.

Now though the project is in desperate need of financial support as the charity has revealed that it is set to run out of funds early next year.

Sister Margaret Rose, who is originally from Scotland but moved to Lancashire three years ago while having treatment for cancer, said: "The project does a wonderful job helping to improve the lives of many of the Congo's millions of destitute children and young people.

"However, it is still very much a work–in–progress and the fate of the children and young people in its care will be greatly determined by the ongoing financial support that is given – or not – to the project.

Vulnerable

"The local version of Ofsted in the Bas–Congo province has rated the primary school attached to the project as the best in the province and 10 orphans who progressed through the project are currently at the University of Bas–Congo.

"Father Simon has to pay their expenses though and needs urgent help in order to make it possible for them to continue with their education because education is what gives a voice to the voiceless and empowers the powerless.

"So I am appealing to the people of West Lancashire to make a donation to this worthy cause, no matter how small, to help this vulnerable community survive. A donation would be so wonderful and truly in the spirit of Christmas."

• **ANYONE wishing to make a donation can contact Peter Harding on 01383 822540 or 07963 606 677.**

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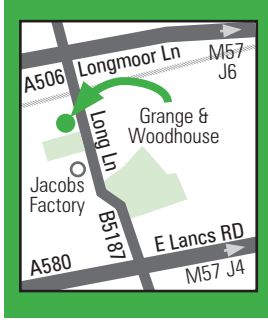

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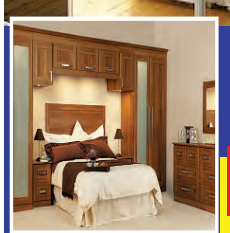

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Sunday	20	December
Monday	21	December
Tuesday	22	December
Wednesday	23	December
Thursday	24	December
Christmas Day		CLOSED
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Tuesday	29	December
Wednesday	30	December
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Outstanding rating for teacher training team

Current trainees pictured with chair of SHARES, Mike Holden, headteacher of St Richard's School, Skelmersdale.

STAFF at a Skelmersdale–based teacher training programme are celebrating the results of their recent Ofsted inspection.

Inspectors found the quality of leadership and management across the North West SHARES School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) programme to be outstanding.

The report stated that the programme had 'exceptional leadership and management' and added that 'everyone shares the same ambitious vision, all are absolutely dedicated to developing inspirational teachers and future leaders for local schools'.

The North West SCITT has successfully trained more than 100 primary school teachers and staff are proud that 97% of their former trainees are now successfully employed in schools across the region.

They also continue to support their ex–trainees as they complete their NQT year and progress into future leadership training.

The chair of SHARES, Mike Holden, headteacher of St Richard's School, Skelmersdale, said: "This is such a positive outcome for our provision. We set out with the aim of growing the next generation of teachers for the town of Skelmersdale and schools in the North West as a whole and we have now achieved this.

"An outstanding judgement for a small initial teacher training provider reflects the time and effort spent ensuring that our trainee teachers are really the best out there."

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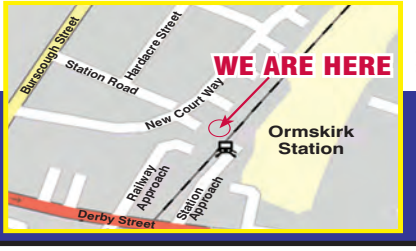

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Not all landlords are 'outsiders' and we do care about the appearance of our town centre

AS a former headteacher, I feel compelled to write and branch out into 'adult education.'

I was infuriated by Mrs P. A.'s criticism and generalisation of landlords and student properties (Letters, November 11).

I also wish to stress that her perception that landlords live outside of Ormskirk, with no regard for the appearance of our town centre or the rented properties, is totally wrong.

Demise

Proud to have been born at Ormskirk Hospital in 1951, I've lived and worked and continue to live in Ormskirk. Like many of the local landlords, I work hard to maintain the properties' external appearance and they're certainly not 'shabby.'

Yes, I've seen the demise of our market town and the growth of Edge Hill University. But we cannot hold the university accountable for the empty shops.

Unlike Mrs P. A., who I note is a Lathom resident, I strongly oppose the current trend of town–centre buildings and pubs becoming student accommodation.

The fact is, one wealthy businessman has over several years purchased many prominent buildings and it is his development company that is making the various planning applications to West Lancs Borough Council to gain a change of use that we read about.

To conclude, Ormskirk can strive to improve its image without your critical comments directed at landlords.

G. L., Ormskirk

Hospital staff should set an example when it comes to stopping the spread of germs!

DURING a visit to the physio department at Ormskirk Hospital recently I noticed by the side of the reception window was a hand gel dispenser which we are all told to use for the prevention of germs spreading.

While I was sitting there various members of staff came and went and yet no–one used the gel dispenser once.

A member of the public then walked into the physio dept and she went to use the gel and it appeared that it may have not been working. She tried again but still nothing happened.

She then went to the window where the receptionist was seated and asked her if she knew if it was working. The receptionist replied that she had no idea if it was working as she has never used it!

I found this quite amusing.

If you expect the general public to use gel dispensers then surely it would be nice to see members of staff using them and not admitting that they never do!

Mary Agnew, Ormskirk

Thanks, Guys for a great night!

THANK you for the tickets we won through the Champion for Guys and Dolls. We had a fantastic night.

The performance was top–class and the seats were excellent.

Lindsey Billinge, Burscough

PICTURE of the week

www.champnews.com/pixonline

Mayor just can't resist taking a selfie at switch–on

West Lancs Mayor Nikki Hennessy could'nt resist a 'selfie' from the stage as crowds begin to gather to watch Ormskirk Christmas Lights switch–on last Friday.

Picture by Martyn Snape

Retailers not guilty of profiteering from PayPoint transactions

IN a recent Champion article West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper's comments were critical of a local retailer for requiring supplementary purchases with PayPoint transactions.

Whilst in no way does the National Federation of Retail Newsagents (NFRN) encourage or condone retailers breaking the terms and conditions of supply from suppliers, retailers who have been forced into the position of asking PayPoint customers to make a supplementary purchase are not profiteering.

They are merely seeking to maintain a service to their customers that they would otherwise have to remove, causing much detriment for less–advantaged customers who rely on over–the–counter utility service top–ups.

For some retailers, regrettably, this action is necessary in the face of an extremely aggressive supplier who is not paying retailers a sufficient income to operate its terminals and is expecting retailers to subsidise its own profitability through sales of other product lines.

Paul Baxter, chief executive NFRN

We can help if you're worried about your disability benefit claim

WE would like to warn local people who are receiving disability benefits about changes announced by the government sometime ago that are only now beginning to affect people's lives.

For years Disability Living Allowance (DLA) has been one of the main benefits for people of working age who needed help and support. However, some time ago the government decided to replace DLA with Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and decided that all existing recipients of DLA aged 16 to 64 will at some point get a letter inviting them to apply for PIP.

But some of those DLA recipients might not realise that they have to respond to the invitation to apply for PIP even if they have been granted DLA lifetime awards. Also, for many, filling in complex forms is both a worry and a time–consuming exercise.

The problem is made worse because if they do not apply when asked to, and their DLA ceases, they will lose any of a number of benefits linked to DLA, such as continued access to a motability vehicle.

We would therefore like to stress that anyone receiving an invitation to apply for PIP must do so, whatever their current arrangement over DLA. Also, may we suggest that they contact us at Citizens Advice, where we have a team of trained advisers who can not only guide them through the application process but also explain in detail what to do if at first they are turned down.

Anyone wanting advice and assistance with dealing with the invitation to apply for PIP can call us on 03442451294. Many have already done so and we are able to help through the appeal process if they have been turned down.

This can be a worrying time for many people but we can help.

Diane Gradwell, chief executive, Lancashire West Citizens Advice

Council should wake up to town's lack of amenities

I AM sure the majority of Skelmersdale's residents agree with the letter from David Carter (November 11).

How can we be called a town when we have no amenities whatsoever, no train station, decent bus service, shops, etc?

Our sports centre was demolished and now, to add insult to injury, the new college is closing down facilities for A levels.

In a recent survey West Lancs Council could not understand why approximately 70% of people were dissatisfied, because Burscough and Parbold are good places to live – so they chose to ignore it!

Wake up... Skelmersdale is part of West Lancs, you know.

Train stations – Burscough 2, Parbold 1, Skelmersdale 0!

Catherine Mussell, by email

Surely two years is long enough to get a degree?

WITH reference to recent correspondence regarding student hooliganism in Ormskirk, while I accept that the majority of students are hard–working and do not cause any problems to local residents, they do all appear to have an exceptional amount of free time.

Some will use this to study, some just to enjoy themselves. They appear to party all night and then sleep until afternoon.

I would offer a rather radical but fitting solution. Degree courses should be just two years in duration.

Without question the primary reason for attending university is to obtain a qualification, not to waste money on pleasure and merriment! Surely, two years of study is adequate to obtain a good degree.

Steve Kelly, via email

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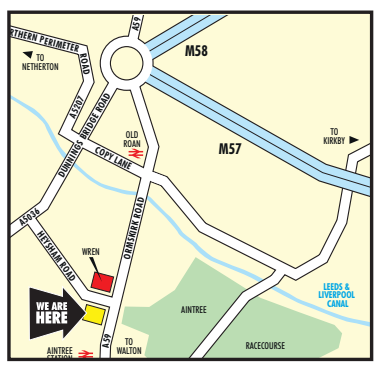

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Soap duo set to light up charity's Christmas fair

TWO cast members from Channel 4 soap Hollyoaks will be special guests at the first Legacy Rainbow House Christmas fair on Saturday (December 5).

Anna Passey, who plays Sienna Blake in the programme, and James Sutton (John Paul McQueen), will perform the switch–on of the spectacular Christmas tree lights at the event which will open at 2pm in the new Rainbow House hub at the children's charity in Saltpit Lane, Mawdesley.

The actors are due to arrive at around 3pm with the lights switch–on scheduled for 4.30pm.

The fair will feature Christmas carols, a brass band, mince pies and tombola plus Father Christmas in his magical grotto, donkeys and a Victorian ice cream barrow.

Anna Passey

James Sutton

Parents can get into the festive 'spirit' with a glass of mulled wine and there will be gift stalls selling jewellery, handbags, skin care, aromatherapy products, hand–made ponchos, card crafts, glitter glass, soft toys, cakes and biscuits.

All proceeds from the day wil be in aid of the charity which provides rehabilitation and support services for children and young adults with brain injuries, multiple disabilities and complex health needs and their families.

For more information or to book a stall call Amber on 01704 823276.

County earmarks £5m to improve 'inadequate' children's services

LANCASHIRE County Council is to implement £5million of changes to improve children's services after an Ofsted report last week rated services for children and young people as 'inadequate' following inspections in September and October.

The measures, which include recruiting new social work and support staff, are designed to address concerns raised by inspectors including a lack of consistency in the quality of care and support.

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Village Christmas Tree Festival dates

THIS year's Westhead Christmas Tree Festival will run from Friday to Sunday, December 11–13 at St James' Church, Vicarage Lane.

Opening times are 2.30 to 4.30pm Friday, 11am to 4pm Saturday and 11am to 3pm Sunday and as well as the annual display of decorated trees there will be homemade refreshments for sale and a 'Christmas Deli' offering cakes, pies, puddings, jams and chutneys.

There will also be children's creative workshops on Saturday from 11am to noon and from 2 to 4pm and on Sunday 11am to noon.

And a Christmas carol and jazz concert – Jazzamatazz – will be staged at the church at 7pm on the Friday featuring Lathom St James' school choir, the Sefton Saxophone Ensemble and the Sefton Youth Jazz Orchestra.

Entry to the festival costs £1 for adults and 50p for children aged five and upwards.

Tickets for Jazzamatazz priced £5, including refreshments, can be ordered by calling 01695 574247.

Public's help sought to correct roll of honour name errors

COUNCIL chiefs are seeking the public's help with a special tribute they are planning to local people who lost their lives serving the country in the two world wars.

The Ormskirk War Memorial was moved from outside the former Comrades Club to Coronation Park in 2012 and as part of the works the council agreed to engrave the names from printed 1914–18 and 1939–1945 Rolls of Honour on to new stone plaques erected alongside the memorial.

However, following extensive research to ensure the names were correct, it appears a large number of potential errors, including spelling mistakes, may have occurred when the rolls were originally drafted.

As a result the authority is seeking to consult with the wider community to help them see if their findings are correct before work starts on the plaques next year.

A spokesman for the council said: "It is important to stress that the council is only seeking information about the names on the existing rolls of honour as these are the ones that relate to the Ormskirk Comrades Memorial.

"Our approach will be only to correct potential errors which are corroborated by clear evidence. Where no such evidence exists we will use the names on the existing rolls. We are not looking for new names in addition to those people already on the rolls of honour for these new tributes."

Copies of the 1914–18 and 1939–45 Rolls of Honour are available on the council's website at www.westlancs.gov.uk.

Anyone wishing to send comments or evidence on the names included on the Rolls of Honour can do so in writing to: Ian Bond, Heritage and Environment Manager, West Lancashire Borough Council, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk L39 2DF; or by email to ian.bond@westlancs.gov.uk.

This public consultation will run until Friday, January 8.

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Cloudy2Clear service the Crosby, Litherland, Aintree, Maghull, Walton, Anfield, Netherton, Bootle, Formby, Ormskirk and Skelmersdale areas & Paul is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. *'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'*

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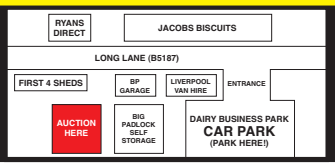

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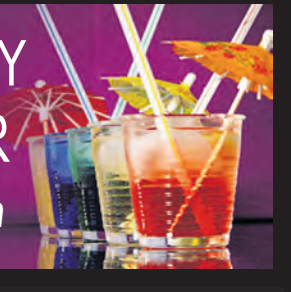

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Online fraud alert to festive bargain seekers

Shoppers urged to be extra vigilant in run–up to Christmas

By **Danielle Thompson**

LANCASHIRE Constabulary have teamed up with crime prevention agencies to warn residents about the dangers of online crime in the run–up to Christmas.

The force's figures for last Christmas show that in Lancashire individuals and businesses reported losing £238,526 to online fraudsters through online shopping and auction fraud in the festive period.

The police have joined forces with Action Fraud, the City of London Police and Get Safe Online to warn shoppers to be extra vigilant in the weeks leading up to Christmas as online fraudsters are watching and waiting to capitalise on the biggest shopping frenzies of the year and to catch out any last–minute shoppers buying on the final few days before Christmas.

Detective Constable Mark Laing, from the digital investigation unit at Lancashire Police, said: "Online shopping continues to thrive and we know that so many people will be surfing the net to buy gifts for their loved ones. We want to make sure that they don't fall victim to cyber–fraudsters and their scams.

"Some of the most common items being bought and sold by victims and fraudsters last year included smart phones, footwear, clothing, watches, gaming consoles, computers and furniture.

TIPS

"Over the next few weeks we'll be posting loads of tips on our social media channels on how to stay safe and we would urge people to follow us and take the advice on board.

"If anyone falls victim to one of the dozen festive frauds, or any other type of cyber–fraud, they are encouraged to report it to Action Fraud – the City of London Police–based national reporting centre – on 0300 123 040 or at www.actionfraud.police.uk."

Council's services winter weather watch

RESIDENTS and businesses in West Lancashire can keep up–to–date with any changes to local authority services as a result of bad weather conditions on the council's website.

Information about any alterations to services, including refuse and recycling collections, is available at www.westlancs.gov.uk/winter or by following the council on social media site Twitter @WestlancsBC.

Council leader, Councillor Ian Moran, said: "Council staff work hard to ensure they are fully prepared should bad weather arrive. By viewing our website or following us on Twitter people will receive updates about affected council services as they happen."

Lancashire County Council also provides information on services such as highways, gritting and school closures at www.lancashire.gov.uk/winter.

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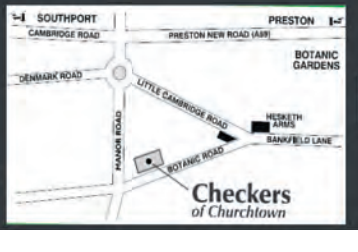

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Homemade French Onion Soup
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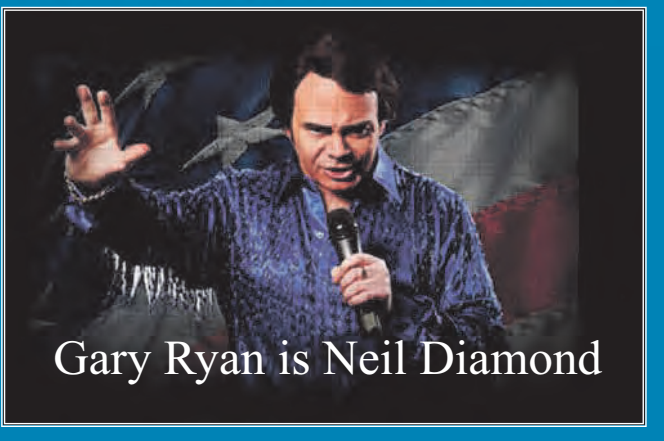

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Easter has been 'cancelled' – in my politically correct diary that is!

WILL the last person to leave Great Britain please turn the lights out?

Actually, the way things are going, there won't be much of a GB to leave anyway.

I came to this conclusion after breaking out the new diary I bought for 2016 to check when Easter falls next year and searched in vain for Easter Sunday or Good Friday.

A printing glitch, perhaps (mind you, the same 'glitch' seemed to have extended to Christmas 2016 as well). But, no worries I thought, and opened the larger diary I keep to record what I actually got up to day by day and guess what? Easter and Christmas were cancelled in that too!

So I checked my two diaries for this year, and sure enough they are missing from them too. But the outwardly similar 2013 versions contain small notes on the appropriate days saying what they are, along with the Queen's birthday and Ramadan.

The same differences also apply to all public holidays in the UK. Interestingly, while the 2013 diaries say they were 'Published in the UK', this year's and next's make no such claim.

To be charitable, I might think that these changes were to save money on research into holiday dates and printing – but frankly I'm not that charitable. No, it seems to me that these dates have been removed just in case they might cause offence to folk of a different religion.

I can see that this swingeing deletion of all things British might, to a deluded mind, apply to our religious festivals and holidays and I rather suspect that they decided that the mention of Easter or Christmas could offend someone.

I suppose that having taken this ridiculous stance, you would then also have to remove the dates for Bank Holidays as well. They wouldn't want to look silly, would they? So to appear inclusive, the producers of my diaries have decided that there is no need for me to know when our official holidays are.

The whole thing is fatuous and, I would have thought, offensive and patronising to those very groups that whoever made these decisions was trying to placate. After all, their only other choice would have been to include in its pages the dates of every celebration for every worldwide religion and that would look silly too, as well as taking up a lot of space on each page of the diary probably.

I have more or less decided to stop banging on about the stupidity of most so–called 'politically correct' daftnesses – it's just like banging my head on the soft wall of those to whom diversity means accepting just about anything so long as it is not a native tradition. It makes no impression on this vocal minority but gives you a headache anyway.

And I have long since given up listening to so–called 'comedians' and their supposed 'jokes' which these days seem to be more of a hectoring lecture into the failings of reactionaries such as myself – and of course that old favourite, Margaret Thatcher, the mention of whose name seems to bring out roars of laughter from an audience many of whom weren't even born when she was Prime Minister.

What has been totally forgotten about jokes which now are classified as either sexist or racist is that they were also funny because there was a grain of truth in them. A friend of mine used to bring back 'English jokes' after visits to his family in Northern Ireland, and very funny I found them too.

If you cannot laugh at the failings of your own country or religion (and both must have failings the world over) then I feel there must be something very wrong with the morals of the country or their faith in their religion.

I'd bet a pound to a rupee that the Indians had some great jokes about the British Raj – and I'd bet too that we could laugh at them as well, without taking offence.

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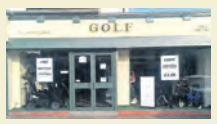

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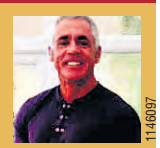

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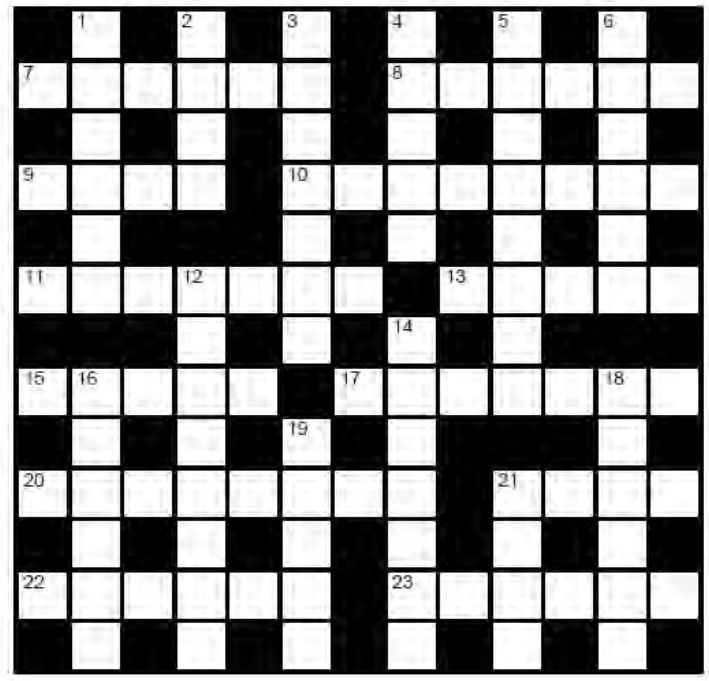
Week 49



Last week's solutions:
Across: 7 Private school. 8 Capriole. 9 Edit. 10 Lily pad. 12 Denim. 14 Offer. 16 Emperor. 19 Silo. 20 Slapdash. 22 Physiotherapy.
Down: 1 Aria. 2 Overly. 3 Ottoman. 4 Askew. 5 Wheeze. 6 Politico. 11 In flight. 13 Empathy. 15 Egoism. 17 Endure. 18 Ascot. 21 Saps.

ACROSS

7 Import or export duty (6)
8 Regular repeated pattern of movement or sound (6)
9 Ruffian (4)
10 Contagious bacterial skin infection (8)
11 Brass musical instrument (7)
13 Small growth projecting from a mucous membrane (5)
15 Sequence of continuous action in a play or film (5)
17 Plant whose leaves, stems, or flowers are cooked and eaten or used as seasoning (7)
20 British coastal trading vessel designed to pass under low bridges (8)
21 Tangled mass of hair or wood (4)
22 Sorcerer, warlock (6)
23 (Of sound) sweet and soothing (6)

DOWN

1 One of Santa's reindeers (6)
2 Energy, enthusiasm (4)
3 Person holding a position of authority or a commission in the armed services (7)
4 Fruit used to make wine (5)
5 Found in the upper jaw (3,5)
6 (Of hair or fur) unkempt (6)
12 Trivial details (8)
14 Funnel-shaped destructive vortex of violently rotating winds (7)
16 French ferry port (6)
18 Person who takes part in a violent disturbance (6)
19 A woman on her wedding day (5)
21 Cause the death of (4)

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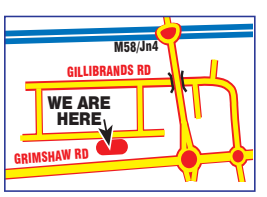

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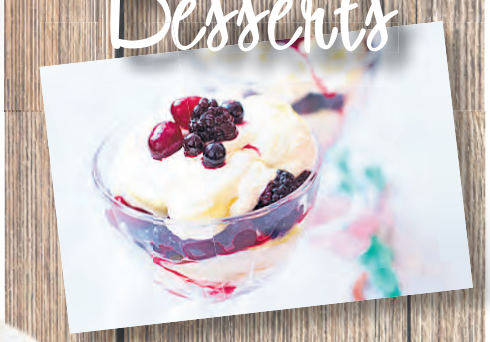
Champion focus

Focus on Festive Recipes

Your Champion guide to planning a Fantastic Christmas menu

Starters

Main Dishes



Desserts

Drinks

Christmas Quiz

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Christmas for everyone

From the turkey to the sprouts, the mince pies to the party puddings, whatever festive feast you're throwing this Christmas, eat, drink and be merry with our selection of delicious festive recipes. When it comes to Christmas, food and drink play such a key role and whilst many thrive on the pressure, there are those who find the endless preparation and cooking particularly stressful and challenging.

With this in mind, our latest Focus On publication aims to provide both inspiration, some tips and hints and above all, delicious recipes to assist you over the festive period. This collection offers you a choice at every stage of your food preparation. We have gathered the most interesting suggestions and where possible, have also tried to select recipes that can be made in advance, as let's face it, this is the best way to ensure a stress free Christmas, not spent entirely in the kitchen. Finally, we have also paid attention in choosing ingredients that are easy to source which hopefully won't break the bank.

So whatever you choose to do, you will find this Focus On... full of great ideas and we hope that you will spend a very tasty Christmas and New Year!

Starters

Whatever your choice of starter, one rule of thumb remains. Because invariably the main event will be quite substantial, you don't want to overfeed your guests and your main consideration in deciding on your starter is to keep everything light.

Adam Gray's Parsnip and Apple soup

(Serves 4 but can easily be doubled)
This first course is light, delicious and won't fill your guests up too much. You may prefer to serve grissinis instead of bread so as not to add too much stodge.

INGREDIENTS

500g parsnip
1 onion
2 Granny Smith apples
50g butter
1 litre semi skimmed milk
150ml single cream
Salt & White pepper
3 tbsp grated Parmesan
Crusty roll

METHOD

Start by peeling and quartering the parsnips, removing any hardened centres. Peel, core and quarter the apples then finely chop the onion. Heat the butter in a large saucepan until it starts to foam. Add the onions and cook gently for 8-10 minutes, stirring now and again, until they are soft but not browned. Once soft, throw in the parsnips and apples and cook for a further 5 minutes.
Pour in enough milk to cover the ingredients. Bring the milk to the boil and then reduce the heat, simmering gently for 15-20 minutes until the parsnips are tender. Once tender remove the pan from the heat and pour in the single cream. Place the soup in a liquidiser and blend until smooth, then pass it through a fine sieve. Season to taste, serving with a sprinkle of Parmesan cheese and the crusty bread.

(www.greatbritishchefs.com)

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Crayfish or Prawn Cocktail

(Serves up to 6)
Starters don't come more traditional than this! Or easier... If you decide on this, make sure you have some nice clear tall dishes to sit the food in, at Christmas, presentation is even more important than usual.

INGREDIENTS

6tbsp mayonnaise
1tsp ground sumac (or cayenne pepper), plus extra to serve
juice of 1 lemon, plus extra wedges to serve
1 small iceberg lettuce, shredded
3 avocados, cut into chunks
450g cooked and peeled crayfish tails or juicy prawns

METHOD

Mix the mayonnaise with the sumac and 1-2tsp lemon juice and set aside. When ready to serve, divide the lettuce between 6 serving glasses or bowls, add a layer of avocado followed by the crayfish. Drizzle over the remaining lemon juice then add a spoonful of the mayo to each. Sprinkle over the sumac and serve with lemon wedges.

(www.womanandhome.com)

Smoked Salmon Terrine

(Serves 4)
Some folks can't do festive without smoked salmon but even they may hesitate in serving it straight from the pack. Here's an elegant and easy recipe for a Smoked Salmon terrine by Shaun Rankin that will stun and delight everyone around...

INGREDIENTS

400g of smoked salmon
125g of unsalted butter
125ml of whipping cream
pink peppercorns crushed

To serve
1 cucumber
4 slices of bread
4 hard boiled quail eggs

METHOD

Prepare for the terrine by making the clarified butter. Melt the butter completely in a saucepan. Once it has separated, use a spoon to carefully remove the milky residue on top and discard. Pour the golden liquid butter left slowly into another pan, leaving the milky water behind. Weigh out 150g smoked salmon. Slice and lay the slices across the inside of a terrine mould lined and overlapped with cling film, ensuring they overlap and are long enough to reach up the sides of the terrine and cover the top when filled. Place the remaining salmon in a food processor and blend until smooth.

In separate pans, warm the cream and clarified butter. Slowly add the cream and then the butter to the processed smoked salmon and blend until smooth. Season with crushed pink peppercorns.

Pour the salmon mixture into the terrine mould, and fold over the overhanging salmon slices to cover the top. Cover the whole terrine with cling film again and place in the fridge to chill for at least 4 hours, preferably overnight.

Just prior to serving, peel the cucumber and then, with a peeler, create cucumber ribbons. Set aside and served with quail eggs, parboiled for about 3 mins and cooled in iced water.

(www.hospitalityandcateringnews.com)

Smoked Fish Pate

(Serves 6)
If you have next to no time, all is not lost. Try this recipe and see why. Serve with toast or fresh crusty bread.

INGREDIENTS

4 skinless smoked mackerel fillets (or smoked salmon equivalent weight)
100g cream cheese or creme fraiche
1 tbsp creamed horseradish
1 knob butter
1 small handful freshly chopped parsley
zest and juice of 1 lemon
salt and pepper, to taste

METHOD

Whiz everything into a food processor until smooth using only the juice of half the lemon. Taste test and add more lemon juice if desired. Season with salt and pepper and serve immediately or chill covered in the fridge until needed.

(www.allrecipes.co.uk)

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Main Event

Try as you might, turkey will always feature high in the choice stakes where Christmas is concerned so we include it in our choices here. But you will agree that our recipe is a little different from most! This section is all about the 'main event' so if you are going to push the boat out... do it in style!

Turkey, Brie & Cranberry Wellington

(Serves up to 8)

This recipe allies all the traditional flavours and because it uses far less meat than a whole bird, it is cheaper and much quicker to cook. Prepare it a day ahead and rest, even easier! This would also make a great buffet centrepiece.

INGREDIENTS

2 x 500g blocks all-butter puff pastry
plain flour, for dusting
1 egg, beaten

For the stuffing layer:

2 tbsp butter
1 leek, finely sliced
100g gammon, chopped
4 sausages, skins removed
5 sage leaves, chopped
85g fresh breadcrumbs

For the filling:

2 turkey breasts
200g brie, sliced
4-5 tbsp cranberry sauce

METHOD

For the filling, trim your turkey breasts: you want to create a long tube of meat in the middle of your Wellington, similar in shape to a fillet of beef – you can use the trimmings in the stuffing, so don't worry about wastage. Once you have the correct shape, slice a pocket into the breasts deep enough so that the Brie and cranberry sauce will stay inside, but don't cut all the way through. Divide the cranberry sauce and Brie between the 2 turkey breasts, then chill while you make the stuffing.

For the stuffing, heat the butter in a frying pan and gently cook the leek for about 5 mins. Meanwhile, finely chop the turkey trimmings and add to the pan with the gammon. Cook for about 5 mins, then remove and allow to cool slightly. Mix with the sausagemeat, sage and breadcrumbs, then season.

Roll out the first block of pastry on a floured surface to about the thickness of a pound coin: you want a long thin shape that is about 5cm wider than turkey breast width and 5cm longer than length of turkey breasts placed end to end. Gently lift this onto a baking sheet and put the turkey breasts on top, followed by the stuffing. Roll out the second block of pastry, brush the edge of the bottom sheet with egg and lay the top one over. Trim edges to neaten, then crimp together. Can be made up to one day in advance and chilled.

Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Brush the Wellington with more beaten egg and, with a sharp knife, score a criss-cross pattern, but don't cut all the way through. Cook for 30 mins, then cover with foil and cook for 30-45 mins more. After 1 hr, check that the middle is hot by inserting a skewer for 5 secs – it should feel hot to the touch. Leave to rest for 15 mins, then slice to serve.

(www.bbcgoodfood.com)

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Rolled Shoulder of Lamb with Christmas Pudding Stuffing

(Serves 8)

If the idea of turkey is not for you, lamb is a great alternative especially in this recipe. The sweetness of the meat and its stuffing are showcased with a gravy to die for. A real treat.

INGREDIENTS

1.3kg lean boned and rolled lamb shoulder joint
2tbsp freshly chopped rosemary leaves
Salt and freshly milled black pepper
1tbsp rapeseed or olive oil

For the Christmas Pudding Stuffing:

100g prepared Christmas pudding, crumbled
50g cooked white rice, cooled
Grated zest of 1 large lemon or 2 small clementines or satsumas
1tbsp freshly chopped chives

For the Sherry Gravy:

1tbsp plain flour
450ml good, hot lamb stock
150ml sweet sherry or Port

METHOD

Preheat the oven to Gas mark 4-5, 180-190°C, 350-375°F. Scatter the rosemary on a large tray. Unroll the joint (reserving any elasticated meat bands and coat each side with the rosemary. Leave skin side down and season.

To prepare the stuffing; in a small bowl mix all the ingredients together and spread evenly over the lamb. Roll up and secure with butcher's string or reserved elasticated meat bands. Place on a metal rack in a large non-stick roasting tin, drizzle with the oil and roast in a preheated oven for about 80 minutes. Cover with foil if browning too quickly. Remove the joint from the oven, transfer to a large plate, cover and leave to rest for 15-20 minutes.

To prepare the gravy; spoon off any excess fat from the roasting tin and discard. Place the roasting tin over a medium heat and sprinkle over the flour. Stir well with a small whisk or spoon, add a little stock and stir again, scraping the base of the pan to release any rich, sediment. Add the remaining stock, sherry or Port and any meat juices,adjust the seasoning, if required and simmer for 8-10 minutes, stirring occasionally or until reduced to a well-flavoured gravy. Strain before serving.

(www.foodnetwork.co.uk)

Squash and Spinach Pie

(For 4)

This can be a challenge to the meat loving cook and often, vegetarians feel left out or second class citizens with boring and bland options on display. Things will look up if you serve this choice. And look, easy ingredients to get too!

INGREDIENTS

3 tbsp olive oil
1 butternut squash (about 770g), peeled and cut into small wedges
2 tsp chilli flakes
400g frozen spinach, defrosted and squeezed dry
200g Greek-style salad cheese, chopped
150ml Greek-style yogurt
50g butter, melted
4 large sheets of filo pastry

METHOD

Preheat the oven to 200°C/fan180°C/gas 6. Heat the oil in a large frying pan, then fry the squash over a medium-high heat for 10 minutes until tender, adding the chilli flakes towards the end of cooking. Transfer to a bowl to cool a little, then mix in the spinach, cheese and yogurt. Season well, then set aside.

Butter a sheet of filo pastry and use to line a roughly 26cm x 16cm shallow tin so the ends overhang. Repeat with 2 more sheets, laying them in alternate directions, so you get a good amount of pastry overhang on all sides of the tin. Spoon the squash and spinach filling evenly into the prepared tin. Cut the remaining sheet of filo in half, butter both pieces and lay over the top of the filling. Fold the overhanging pastry into the centre to encase the filling. Brush the top of the pie with a little more melted butter, then bake in the oven for 25-30 minutes until golden and piping hot. Turn out or slice in the tin into portions. As an alternative, this would work well as individual filo parcels, too. You could serve one for a veggie guest and freeze the rest. In step 2, line four individual ramekins or pie moulds with the buttered filo. Fill, cover and bake for 20 minutes until golden.

(www.deliciousmagazine.co.uk)

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Desserts and Puds

We can't seriously give you ANOTHER Christmas pudding recipe at this time of the year when every magazine out there has their 'sure-fire-never-fails' version for you to try. As most people end up buying one anyway, we have opted to present to you some simple and tasty alternatives.

Baked Stollen Pudding

(Serves 8)

The traditional taste of Christmas is very evident with Stollen, that German cake filled with marzipan and fruit. This pudding is so simple and so tasty, you just got to try it

INGREDIENTS

- 750g-1kg/1lb 10oz-2lb 4oz Stollen, cubed
- 300ml double cream
- 300ml milk
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 6 amaretto biscuits, crushed
- icing sugar, to serve (optional)

METHOD

Heat oven to 180C/160 fan/gas 4. Put the stollen cubes into an ovenproof serving dish. Mix the cream, milk and eggs together and pour over the Stollen. Sprinkle over the amaretto biscuits. Bake for 45 mins until golden and slightly risen. Serve dusted with icing sugar, if you like.

(www.bbcgoodfood.com)

Christmas Mess

(Serves 8)

After a big dinner, a light dessert can be most welcome. This particular dessert would also work well any time throughout the festive season with all its Christmassy flavours.

INGREDIENTS

- 600ml double cream
- 400g Greek yoghurt
- 4 tbsp lemon curd
- 1 x 500g bag frozen mixed berries
- 4 tbsp icing sugar
- 2 tbsp cassis (optional)
- 1 pinch cinnamon
- 8 meringue nests

METHOD

In a small saucepan gently heat the frozen berries, icing sugar and cinnamon until the sugar has dissolved. Remove from the heat, stir in the cassis, if using, and set aside to cool completely. Whip the double cream and Greek yoghurt until just holding it's shape, ripple through the lemon curd. Break the meringue nests into a glass bowl or 8 individual glasses. Spoon over half the cream, then half the berries. Repeat with the remaining cream and berries. Serve immediately.

((www.bbcgoodfood.com)

Gorgonzola and Marsala Pears

(Serves 2)

Many of us are over faced with sugar at this time of the year so how about a relatively simple cheese course alternative. If you like blue cheese, this one's the one for you!

INGREDIENTS

- 2 pears, core removed the cut into quarters
- 1 tbsp unsalted butter
- 2 sprigs of rosemary
- Peel of 1 lemon
- 3 tbsp Marsala
- 2 tbsp honey
- A pinch of black pepper
- A large wedge of Gorgonzola

METHOD

Heat a large frying pan over a high heat. Add the butter and allow to melt, then add the pears, rosemary and lemon peel. Allow the pears to caramelize before turning them over and splashing in the Marsala wine. Add the honey and bring it up to a bubble and cook for 2 minutes until syrupy. Serve with Gorgonzola cheese and crusty bread.

(www.foodnetwork.co.uk)

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Drinks

Everyone likes something different in their glass at Christmas time. Here we offer alternatives that are fun and oh, so festive!

Poinsettia

(Makes a pitcher for 8/10)
This gorgeous drink packs a punch and looks incredibly festive

1 x 75cl bottle of fizzy dry white wine, chilled
125ml Cointreau, Grand Marnier or Triple Sec, chilled
500ml cranberry juice, chilled

Mix all ingredients together in a jug and pour into wine glasses or champagne flutes/saucers.

(www.stylist.co.uk)

Non Alcoholic Kir Royale

For a drink that looks just like the 'real thing'

Dip the glass rim (plastic champagne flutes are great) in a bowl of water. Shake off excess and dip again in a bowl of sugar.

Twist it around for a thicker coating.

Add a strawberry or raspberry to the glass and pour a small shot of blackurrant cordial.

Top up with chilled sparkling non alcoholic 'champagne', either apple or grape.

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Christmas Food & Drink

What name is given to *sausages wrapped in bacon*?
Which country is the fruitcake *Stollen* from?
Which spirit is added to butter and traditionally served with Christmas pudding?
Which traditional Christmas treat is also in Cockney Rhyming Slang?
What is the main ingredient in the drink *Snowball*?

Christmas Number Ones

Who had last years Christmas number 1?
What were the three years that *Band Aid* were number 1?
What song did *Winifred's School Choir* have a number 1 with in 1980?
Who sang the classic 1973 number 1 *Merry Xmas Everybody*?
Where did Jimmy Osmond's *long haired lover* come from in 1972?

Christmas Films

What character did Macaulay Culkin play in *Home Alone*?
On what street was there a miracle?
The angel *Clarence* is from what 1946 Classic film?
Who wrote *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*?
In the film *Die Hard* who played John McClane?

Christmas Toys

What year was *Barbie* born?
Last year *Elsa* was one of the most sought after toys but what film is she from?
It started in Denmark in 1949 and is still as popular today, what is it?
Who do you associate *Super Mario* with?
Who made the iconic *Chopper* bike?

Pantomime

What pantomime is the Line '*FE FI FO FUM, I smell the blood of an Englishman*' from?
Who's brother is *Wishy Washy*?
In which pantomime does *Buttons* appear?
Who is *Princess Marcella* better known as?
Name the seven dwarfs in *Snow White*?

The Nativity

What town was Jesus born in?
Which angel visited Mary?
Where did baby Jesus lay?
Who were the first people to visit Jesus?
What gifts did the three wise men bring?

Christmas General Knowledge

Who was the first monarch to give a televised Christmas speech?
Who invented the Christmas cracker?
Which drinks firm are reputed to have dressed Father Christmas in red and white?
Who wrote the book *A Christmas Carol*?
Good King Wenceslas looked out to what?
What was number five in the *12 Days of Christmas*?
Who traditionally gives Trafalgar Square the Christmas Tree?
What colour are the berries of mistletoe?
Which TV advert is based on the *Man on the Moon*?
Name the original eight reindeer from '*Twas The Night Before Christmas*?

Have a go at our festive quiz and you could be the lucky winner of £50!

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Scouts' festive postal service

MEMBERS of a local Scout group are once again launching their own Christmas delivery service to raise funds.

This is the third year that 29th Ormskirk (Burscough St John's) Scouts have organised the initiative for the Burscough village area.

Scouts will be deliveringletters and cards left in a number of 'postboxes' located at their headquarters in School Lane and at the following stores and locations within the village – Perfection in Mill Lane, Halo Cards, Neil Heyes Opticians, KC Computers, Profile Hairdressers, Fishlocks Pharmacy, Synergy Dental Practice, Graham's and Tesco.

The group will also be selling their own stamps, priced 30p, which can be bought up to Friday, December 18. Delieveries will be made on Saturdays December 5, 12 and 19.

A spokeswoman for the Scouts said: "Anyone wishing to use the service should make sure they only use our special Scout postboxes and not Royal Mail boxes. If you post your cards in a Royal Mail box the recipient will have to pay a £1 surcharge.

"We will deliver all the cards we receive that have a full address but no responsibility will be accepted for valuables, incorrectly addressed cards or any addressed to areas outside of Burscough.

"Of course youngsters can also send their letter to Santa – just address the envelope To Santa, North Pole, no stamp needed!"

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WIN! WIN! Cinderella tickets at Opera House

AS the countdown to Christmas begins, Cinderella, at Manchester Opera House will see national icons Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean swapping their ice skates for hi tech rollerblades as they make their panto debut as Cinders' Fairy Godparents.

And the Champion has three family tickets (4 tickets per family group) to give away to lucky readers for the show at 5pm on Sunday, December 13.

Arguably Britain's most loved sporting heroes, Torvil and Dean will bring their unique talents to the Opera House for the first time ever and will be joined on stage by Wicked star Liam Doyle as Prince Charming with his loyal sidekick, funny–man Samuel Holmes.

Stand–up comedian and actor Andre Vincent will play the smitten Buttons with the beautiful Eloise Davies in the title role alongside the best boo–able 'Uglies' in pantoland, Tim Hudson and Dave Lynn, as her nasty stepsisters.

The classic rags–to–riches tale Cinderella will be transformed into a breath–taking family extravaganza with glittering sets, gorgeous costumes, big song and dance numbers, real Shetland ponies and jaw–dropping skating sequences.

To win a family ticket to the region's biggest panto all you need to do is tell us what (with a bit of fairy magic!) was Cinderella's beautiful carriage made from?

Send your answer to:– Cinderella Competition, The Champion, 166 Lord Street, Southport, PR9 0QA. Please include your name, address and a daytime telephone contact number.

Entries must reach us by 12noon on Wednesday, December 9, 2015. Winners will be the senders of the first three correct entries drawn.

T&C's apply. Editor's decision is final

Torvill and Dean star in city panto

Torvill and Dean

Cinderella is on at the Opera House, Manchester from December 5 to January 3. Tickets are on sale now so get your skates on and book at www.atgtickets.com/manchester or call 0844 8713018 (booking fees apply)

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Budget reprieve 'a victory for common sense' – commissioner

Report by **Henry James**

THE government's decision to freeze, rather than reduce, police budgets as part of the Chancellor's Comprehensive Spending Review has been hailed as "a victory for common sense" by Lancashire's police and crime commissioner, Clive Grunshaw.

And he believes that the outcome was achieved partly as a result of the county's public campaigning against further cuts.

The commissioner, who had feared that Lancashire would be one of the hardest hit as a result of the funding review, said: "Together local residents, our officers, staff and local politicians stood up and we said we could not take any more cuts and it appears the government has listened to the case we put forward.

"First they had to halt the funding formula review after I and other commissioners raised issues with their basic maths and now they have conceded and agreed with our argument that now is not the time to cut our police.

"This is a great victory for my campaign, for the people of Lancashire and a victory for common sense.

WARNING

"I wrote to the Home Secretary and the Prime Minister last week spelling out exactly that police budgets should not take any more cuts, particularly in the light of the recent terrorist attacks. It seems they have listened and put public safety ahead of spending cuts."

However, Mr Grunshaw warned that because the budgets were protected it wouldn't mean an increase in services and it wasn't the end of austerity.

Clive Grunshaw

He said: "We haven't seen the end of the assault on police budgets by any means, but we have a reprieve. There is no doubt that the funding review will come back soon but we will again put forward a strong case for Lancashire and for policing as a whole.

"Lancashire Constabulary has seen a reduction of 700 police officer roles and 500 police staff since austerity began and services are stretched but what we can look at now is sustaining services, improving our collaboration opportunities and introducing the technology we leave to drive improvements."

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Unique Lego brick animal trail unveiled at Martin Mere

By **Henry James**

A young visitor to Martin Mere gets up close with Kate the Kingfisher.

THE Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust's giant Lego brick animal trail – the only one of its kind in the UK – has been launched at Martin Mere.

This is the first time these characters, especially created for the WWT, have been seen in the North West among the real–life animals which inspired them.

A brand new addition to the trail has also been unveiled, Kate the Kingfisher, which Blue Peter presenter Barney Harwood helped to build.

She has been made especially for the Martin Mere trail and is being featured on Blue Peter, along with her other giant brick friends (who Barney also helped put out on the trail) on CBBC tomorrow (Thursday, December 3).

Through the giant brick animal trail, the nature reserve is using the world's most popular toy to encourage younsters (and the not–so–young) to build a better future for nature.

The 10 individually–designed Lego brick characters will be on dispay at the Burscough centre for nine weeks over the winter (including the Christmas holidays) until January 31.

As well as Kate the Kingfisher, the giant models – some up to 12 times life–size – include Flavia the Andean flamingo, a riot of pink bricks, Benedict the Bewick's swan, magnificently stretching his brick wings, and Emily the Emperor dragonfly, perched on a Lego brick reed.

Another model, Lottie the otter, was named through a social media competition, to celebrate the birth of Princess Charlotte.

The brick models were created by Bright Bricks, the UK's only certified LEGO professionals, and Tom Poulsom, the famous Lego brick 'birdman'.

In total, 123,200 Lego bricks were used over 965 hours to make all 10 characters.

Martin Mere general manager, Nick Brooks, said: "We're thrilled to welcome the new 'species' that have landed at Martin Mere. We know our visitors old and new are going to absolutely love them. They're a really fun way to highlight some of the animals WWT helps to protect.

"Here at Martin Mere we take particular pride in helping to conserve the Hawaiian goose (Nene) the world's rarest goose, which was originally identified as a species that needed protecting by our founder Sir Peter Scott. Today, we are using Lego bricks to inspire the next generation to continue Sir Peter's work of saving threatened wildlife."

As well as the trail, budding sculptors can take part in fun and games at Lego brick workshops at weekends and daily through the Christmas holidays. People can also build their own minifigures. All proceeds will support WWT's conservation work in the UK and around the world.

Appeal to trace burglary suspect

Kenneth McGregor

POLICE are appealing for information about the whereabouts of a man wanted for questioning in connection with a string of burglaries in Durham but who is now thought to be in the Lancashire area.

Crimestoppers are offering a reward of up to £2,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of Kenneth McGregor who is wanted in connection with a number of the offences committed between August and November in Bishop Auckland, County Durham.

The 26–year–old is described as white with blue eyes and fair hair.

Anyone who can help can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or online.

Charity showcase

A WEST Lancashire–based voice coach will be holding her first Disability Awareness and Additional Needs Showcase on Monday, December 7.

Caroline Derbyshire, owner of the CD Music Academy in Rufford, is the driving force behind Rising Stars UK, a series of themed showcases for local talent.

She will be hosting the showcase at 7pm at the Ormskirk Civic Hall to raise money for charity. Mayor of West Lancs, Councillor Nikki Hennessy will be among the guests and compere will be Sky TV's Neil Newton.

Caroline has confirmed performances by CD Music Academy pupils, dancers from West Lancs dance group, Divine Days and Dream–makers Drama Society, based in Skelmersdale, as well as singers and gymnasts from Spartac Gymnastics Club based at Edge Hill University.

Proceeds from all the concerts will go to the Community Link Foundation, which supports the parents of local children with an ongoing illness or disease, sports teams in need of new equipment and community groups that need supplies or materials.

Tickets will cost £10 and will be available on the door. For more information, contact 07970 896 943.

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Singers start festive programme of events

ORMSKIRK Occasional Singers start their programme of Christmas events at St Anne's Church, Ormskirk this Friday (December 4) at 7.30pm.

Residents are invited to come along and help raise the roof (literally) with their voices and donations!

OOS will be performing their annual Christmas Concert at St Michael and All Angels Church, Dalton, on Friday, December 18 – where the homemade mince pies and wine always go down a treat.

Tickets for the events can be purchased on the door. Audience participation is always encouraged and appreciated.

Ormskirk Occasional Singers can be booked for private events such as weddings, funerals etc. More information can be found at www.ormskirkoccasionalsingers.org

If you are interested in joining this bunch of people, contact Steph Ellis on (01257) 463461.

Meanwhile the Cantique Chamber Choir are carolling this Sunday (December 6) at Warbreck Garden Centre from 2–3pm.

The Occasional Singers carolling at Warbreck Garden Centre Code NA

Rehearsals for the production Code NA

Students getting ready for their biggest production

STUDENTS and staff at The Artz Centre in Skelmersdale have been preparing for their biggest production so far, which is due to take to the stage this coming weekend at The Ormskirk School Theatre.

The show has been written and directed by Mark Ashton and features over 110 cast members between the age of two and 32.

This project will cap off another good year for The Artz Centre.

The Lost Christmas is a heart warming festive tale, which Mark said will take audiences on a roller coaster of emotion. He added: "This production is packed with tradition, amazing characters and some stunning individual and ensemble performances, it will bring a lump to your throat and will surely get you in the mood for Christmas."

Writer and director Mark added: "This is the biggest project I have ever been involved in and to say it is ambitious is an understatement.

"I wanted to offer the opportunity and experience to all of our students, even the youngest ones and their response has been overwhelming. This production has already been earmarked for bigger things, attracting interest from publishers from all over.

"I want to pay tribute to the professionals that have helped to bring this production together.

"The Artz Centre is home to some of the most inspirational people I know and this production is the cherry on the cake of what has been an unbelievable year for everyone involved.

"I have been writing plays since I was in high school and this one is very special to me. I wanted to create something that could be enjoyed by a wider audience, something that would make the audience think but ultimately something they would remember long after they had left the theatre. This is perhaps the most festive thing you will see and a great night out for families this Christmas."

Tickets for the production are now on sale. For more details email info@artzcentre.co.uk or call 01695 733080. The Artz Centre can also be found on Facebook and Twitter

editorial@champnews.com

Traditional Christmas fair to be held in church hall

THERE is to be a traditional Christmas Fair at St Michael's Church in Aughton.

There will be a selection of uniquely hand–crafted Christmas items and gifts, and a range of home–made cakes, jams and preserves.

Youngsters can visit Father Christmas in his Grotto. Visitors will be able to listen to Christmas music while enjoying a drink and mince–pie or bowl of hot scouse with crusty bread.

People can also chance their luck on the tombola, raffle and enjoy taking part in the fun games and children's craft activities.

All the activities will take place in the church hall, Church Lane, Aughton, on 12–3pm this Saturday (December 5).

editorial@champnews.com

Young'uns to perform at Atkinson

THE Young'uns perform for the first time at Southport's The Atkinson with their tour We Three Sings on Sunday, December 13.

A force of nature on stage. Their humour, love for harmony singing, passion for storytelling and commitment to maintaining the tradition of social commentary have quickly made them one of the most sought after acts on the English folk scene.

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FASINATORS purple with diamonte centre, and lilac with rose centre feather detail.both in excellent condition £5.00 each 07772525612

GENTS BLACK BHS dinner suit, chest 46 ins trousers waist 44 ins inside leg 31 ins worn once £40 01704 897369

GENTS FLEECE Two nice fleeces, one Reebok from River Island in grey and one black, size large, worn twice £20.00 07530562650

GENTS GREENWOODS red waistcoat, size xl, still has label, cost £35, accept £20 01704 897369

GREY LADIES SUEDE BOOTS make – Rocket Dog – purchased from TKMaxx. Fur lined. Not worn. £60 when new, will accept £30 07821417560

HOTTER SHOES 2 pair black, 1 pair red. New £20 pair 0151 9311298

LACE DRESS Whistles, raspberry coloured, size 14, worn once for a wedding. Bargain £70 01704 569304

WEDDING DRESS Size 12, ivory & pink (never worn) £950 o.n.o. Ladies size 16 ivory wedding dress, never worn, ex con £950 o.n.o. 2 Pink bridesmaids dresses, size 12/14 £25 each 07983 809732

COMPUTING

DELL PC MONITOR 17 inch PC monitor, excellent condition. £25 o.n.o. 01704 392331

DIY

SILVERLINE PETROL Power Washer only used twice, other Electrical goods also for sale £80 o.n.o. 07970 371307

USED TIMBER 3x2, 10ft and 8ft lengths. Very Clean. £0.60p a metre 01695 571291

DIY

JOINERY TOOLS Over 100 small tools. Phone for details £40 o.n.o. 01695 725444

TRAILER 4x3. Excellent Condition £140 01695 571291

2 DOUBLE GLAZED UNITS glass only 110cm x 139cm £offers 01257 464157

5 UNOPENED full packs laminate flooring, light pine, plus 1.5 packs dark pine, opened, will split £10 a pack 07907 275 4085

CHAINSAW ELECTRIC 2300w with assembled blade and chain Workzone, new, unused and boxed. £45 01704 560150

ELECTRIC WOOD PLANE with spare blades, good working order £25 07955434571 / 07955434571

METAL LADDER Tripple extending, extends to 35ft, very good condition. Buyer collects £100 01695 625019

HOUSE AND HOME

PAM PIV LOFT UNIT Ventilates whole dwelling, improves indoor air quality. Prevents condensation. Easy fitting in loft. £200 o.n.o. 01695 322794

LARGE SOLID OAK COFFEE TABLE 130cm x70 x50. Two drawers. excellent condition. Bought from stokers £350 £100 o.n.o. 07702997311

2 WHITE LEATHER sofas. 2 & 3 seater. Excellent condition. Only 2 years old. £450 o.n.o. 01695 729502

DAEWOO COMBI COOKER 800w, bought Jun2014, cost £250 new. £50 0151 9285487

100/00 FEATHER pocketed mattress topper, elasticated corners, never used, bought Dunelm £110, £50 01704 576546

2 TUB CHAIRS Contemporary design neutral colours. Very good condition £40 01704897756

8 INTERNAL DOORS 77 h x 30 w with handles, £40. 1 single radiator 4ft w x 2ft h with thermostat £15 07933 586671

BATHROOM PEDASTAL SINK White porcelain wash basin with matching base and mixer tap.Used but in very good condition. Bargain at £30.00. Telephone or text if interested. £30.00 07745289470

CABIN BED 2 M&S beds currently cost £750 each will include pocket sprung mattress which were another £150 each, £125 each or £225 for the pair absolute bargain £125 07736 329166

CABINET Mahogany Antique Cabinet. to be used for storing DVD's/CD's Height 35'xWidth 24'x Depth 14' Secondhand when bought. £30.00 07731849647

CANE SETTEE Three seater with beige cushions for conservatory or home. Good condition. Bargain £40 0151 2849148

CANNON STATFORD Gas slot in cooker, four hobs, glass top grill oven, white flex hose, vgc £40 07544036210

CRYSTAL DECANTERS.. Unused decanters for sherry, whisky, etc. £10 each 01704840135

CURRYS ESSENTIALS FRIDGE Good condition, must collect £50 07931 700614

DINING TABLE Double glass, 6 chairs. Can deliver. Payed £500. v.g.c. £100 o.n.o. 07814 916178

G–PLAN TEAK COCKTAIL UNIT with glass bar top for protection, H 39 ins W 42 ins £40 01704 897369

HOTPOINT FRIDGE ex con £35. 2 unused single airbeds, ideal for guests £10 each 01704 227951

LARGE LEATHER SOFA Tan, from DFS, excellent cond £95.2 Bedside cabinets and 4 wardrobe doors to be used as replacement £35 07786 298207

LINEN SOFA 2 seater beige sofa good condition and comfortable, buyer must collect £60.00 o.n.o. 07790791733

LOUIS HARDWOOD DOORS 6, 5 at 78/30, 1 at 78/27 all with handles and hinges £60 07786 298207

HOUSE AND HOME

MARBLE FIRE SURROUND. marble fire surround in cream suitable for coal are gas 1500 pounds new excellent condition price 150 £150 07710434770

NEST OF TABLES G Plan nest of three tables, from a good home and in good condition and a bargain. £95.00 07530562650

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RUSSELL HOBS STEAMER Russell Hobs 3 tiered steamer. Unwanted gift £10 POUNDS 01704879850

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SOFA LARGE 3 SEATER Pistachio green linen effect fabric large cushion sofa. Nearly new excellent condition £80 01704897756

STORAGE TRUNK METAL Vintage painted steamer trunk with studded top ideal for bedding box, coffee table, storage. Light colour. Very good condition. 18H x27.5W x19inchesD. May deliver. £35 01704 560150

TABLE CLOTH/6 SERVIETTES in polyester/viscose material with scalloped satin edge – raspberry red colour. Very little used – hence no fading/marks. Fantastic for entertaining/xmas. £15 07821417560

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FISHING ROD POWER waggler float rod new, never used, great xmas present £20 07712119055

INVICTA WATCH STUNNING invicta chronograph watch, gold /green unmarked, spare links, ideal present £90 07712119055

PANTERA POLE 11 METRE POLE NEW , £25 07712119055

TABLE FOOTBALL TABLE football, has coffee table top with card table reverse, with 2 stools never used, lovely piece of furniture, cost £365, £150.00 07712119055

TOYS AND GAMES

6X3 SNOOKER TABLE Snooker balls, pool balls, cues, triangle, rests and score chart. Excellent condition £35 07930 154874

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MISC

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BAGS OF LOGS Three, good size £10 01704 893107

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DIECAST CORGI 5 model vehicles, 4x4 jeep, landrover, BP transit wrecker, volvo 760 saloon, BMW M3 racing car. £10. o.n.o. 01704232953

HONDA GENERATOR Petrol 110type B105B 3.5KVA, needs attention to cab £50 01704 870589 / 07955434571

HOOD HAIRDRYER for student £WANTED 0151 5316734

INVICTA WATCH STUNNING invicta chrono watch, gold /green unmarked with spare links, ideal present £90 07712119055

PANDORA BRACELET with two charms plus box, size 19. Cost new £125. Bargain £65 0151 2849148

PUSH BUTTON COMBINATION key safe consumer 500 exterior or internal, cost £60, vgc £20 07544 036210

RECORDS WANTED indie, rock & roll, 60's pop and beat, rock, folk, punk etc. Bought for cash. Cigarette & bubble gum cards also bought £0 01704566210 after 6pm

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MISC

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Care Co-ordinator - Reablement

Grade 5 - £15,987 to £18,816

We require an additional Care Co-ordinator to support the Reablement management team at its office base in The Investment Centre, Bootle.

The primary role of the Reablement Care Co-ordinator is to input and maintain Webroster, allocate Reablement Workers to services users and to act as a point of contact for staff, service users, families and other professionals reporting any changes in service user circumstances or concerns about their welfare. This will be a busy and at times demanding role.

If are interested in applying but would like to know a little more about the job role then you can contact Lorna Irving, Reablement Manager on 0151 934 4582

CLOSING DATE: 11th December 2015

Home Service – Reablement

Reablement Workers – £7.46 – £7.66 per hour - 25 hour permanent contracts

We continue to expand our Reablement Service to support people leaving hospital. The job entails being able to meet short term individual care needs and supporting them to develop or regain their life skills and confidence to live independently. Rotas include day, evenings and weekend work. Must be a driver with access to own vehicle.

Full training provided, paid travel time, pension, paid training and induction programme and we will help you to gain a recognised professional qualification and develop your career within social care. An Enhanced DBS disclosure will be required for this role.

CLOSING DATE: Not specified

To apply for any of these vacancies please visit our website www.ndirections.co.uk or contact the HR Team on 0151 934 2836 to request an application pack.

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Head: J P Doyle MA
1435 on roll including 226 in the Sixth Form

REQUIRED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE:

WELFARE ASSISTANT
Permanent, part time contract, 7.5 hours per week
Term time only, £7.85 per hour
Grade 1, SCP 6, £13,614 pro-rata, plus additional supplement in line with Living Wage which is £15,145 pro rata

The Governors wish to appoint a part time welfare assistant, who, under the direction of the Senior Midday Supervisor, will secure the safety, welfare and good conduct of pupils during the midday break period.
The post holder will also undertake the cleaning of designated areas of the dining hall and other lunch rooms.
Required hours of work are: Monday, Wednesday - Friday: 1.15pm-2.45pm and Tuesday: 12.30pm-2.00pm.
The contract is term time only.

PASTORAL MANAGER
Temporary, part time contract, 32.5 hours per week
Term time only plus six days
Grade 6, SCP 21-26, £19,742 to £22,937 pro-rata

The Governors wish to appoint a Pastoral Manager who will work alongside a Head of College to identify and address barriers to learning for individual pupils and groups of pupils. The postholder will be expected to deal with behavioural, pastoral and welfare issues in order to support the creation of an effective learning environment in the school and maximise learning for each individual. This is an excellent opportunity for an enthusiastic and caring individual to join a forward-thinking College team at a very important time in the school's development.
The post is temporary in the first instance, until 31 August 2016.

Application pack is available on the vacancies section of the school website www.ormskirk.lancs.sch.uk or from the school office

Applications must be returned by noon on 9 December 2015. Interviews will be held w/c 14 December 2015

Ormskirk School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The School will take all necessary steps to check the suitability of prospective employees, with a fully enhanced Disclosure & Barring Certificate being sought, together with a full background check.
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

DOHERTY VALERIE

The family of the late Val Doherty wish to express their sincere thanks to the staff of Ward 11B at Southport Hospital for their incredible care, to Mears and Palliative Care Services, and to the Doctors and staff at the Grange Surgery. Thank you for the sympathy shown by the number of cards received and donations to Queenscourt Hospice and thank you to friends and family who were there at a very sad time. Thanks to the staff at the Thatch and Thistle. Special thanks to Carl Howard and his team at Howard's Funeral Directors and to Canon Gaine. Thanks be to God.
1146231

DEATHS

SIXSMITH Gerald
22nd November 2015
Peacefully in Wigan Infirmary surrounded by his loving family. Aged 83 years
Loving husband to Brenda, a devoted dad to Alison, David (deceased) and Hilary. A much loved Grandad to Matthew, Gabriella, Alastair and Oliver. A dear brother, father-in-law and uncle. Gerald will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral service to take place on Thursday 3rd December 2015 at Upholland Parish Church at 1.30pm followed by interment in Upholland Parish Churchyard. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to Cancer Research UK c/o the family. All enquiries to W Banks Funeral Service, Sefton Road, Orrell. Tel: 01695 622272
1146284

DEATHS

MCMANNUS Karen Rose
November 25th 2015
Peacefully at St Josephs Hospice Aged 68 years
Sadly missed by her daughters Lisa, Julie & Susan, son's in law Andrew & Dylan, grandchildren Kelsey, James, Ethan, Ruby & Tilly.
Always in our hearts. Good night. Sleep tight xxx
All enquiries, flowers or donations to St Josephs Hospice can be sent to c/o H-Leslie Humphreys. 69 Liverpool Road, Crosby L23 5SE. Tel 0151 924 4805
1146437

BIRTHDAY MEMORIAMS

JOLLEY TONY
1st December 2015
On your 80th Birthday
This special birthday we cannot share, but in all of our hearts you will always be there.
Love from your devoted wife Pat, all your loving family, grandchildren and great grandchildren.
God Bless xxx
45796

TAYLOR SIMON JAMES
8th December 1946
Happy Birthday Si
Lots of love your loving family XXX
45362

DEATHS

DEATHS

LITTLEWOOD NEIL
Dad, we cannot bring the old days back.
Your smile we cannot see,
We can only treasure memories,
of days that used to be.
Goodnight Dad.
God Bless.
Heartbroken Daughter Susan,
Son in law Graham and Grandchildren Josh and Ben.
45461

DEATHS

CLARKE SHEILA MARGARET (Nee Sinnott)
24th November 2015
Aged 87 Years
Widow of Alan, who preceded her too early. Beloved mother lost of Stephen and Ann. Revered sister to Harry and Joyce and Jim and Yvonne. A sad and sudden loss to all who knew her. Peacefully comfortably and unexpectedly. She slept and did not wake, but found peace after a long colourful and tiring journey. Service and cremation at Thornton Crematorium on Wednesday 9th December at 1.20pm. Flowers may be handed in at the crematorium.
1146430

IN MEMORIAM

CARTER JULIE (Nee McFarlane)
23rd July 1964 - 5th December 2008
In our hearts and thoughts forever
Mum, Dad, brother Alan, sister Nicki & family XXX
Until we meet again over the rainbow
45365

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RICS

THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(TAYLOR STREET, SKELMERSDALE, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lancashire County Council intend to make an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any motor vehicle or cycles from proceeding over the full length of Taylor Street, Skelmerdale, in the Borough of West Lancashire.

An alternative route for vehicles affected by the closure is as follows

No diversion – Cul De Sac.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable carriageway and footway resurfacing works to be carried out.

The prohibition will be operative from 0800 hours until 1600 hours on Monday 7th December 2015 until Friday 11th December 2015, or until completion of the works within this period.

Authority given for this Order to be made:

Laura Padden, Highway Regulation and Inspection Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/892/HD]

1146322

www.lancashire.gov.uk — Lancashire County Council

THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(BRIDGE STREET, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any motor vehicle or cycle from proceeding over that length of Bridge Street for a distance of 10 metres either side of the Bridge Street, Railway Bridge, in the Borough of West Lancashire.

An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:-

Bridge Street - Chapel Street - Small Lane - A570 St Helens Road - A570 Park Road - B519 - Aughton Street - Bridge Street and vice versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable urgent repairs to the Railway Bridge to be undertaken.

The prohibition will be operative from 0730 hours on Monday 7th December 2015, until 1600 hours on Friday 29th January 2016, or until completion of the works within this period.

Laura Padden, Highway Regulation and Inspection Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: 15/1016/ARH]

1146323

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Saint Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us, St. Jude worker of miracles pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless pray for us.

Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day your prayers may be answered. Say it for 9 days and it has never been known to fail.

Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude

Instructions:
Light your candle and declare out loud what miracle you need right now. Repeat this prayer 9 times for 9 days. Do this at the same time each day, never skip a day. If you do, you need to start over again. On the 9th day give thanks, and say "So be it." Give it up to Saint Jude and let go of any worry. You will see results in 72 hours. Never use this prayer to manipulate or control anyone. Use it only with the best intentions.

This is the most important part of the entire process YOU MUST pass this miracle prayer onto others. Some people publish it in the paper, others e-mail it to their friends, and others post it a public building. **J.Y.**

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Never known to fail.

O most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, faithful Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity, O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein you are my Mother, O Holy Mary Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity.

(Make Request).

There are none that can withstand your powers. Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 Times).

Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands (3 times).

Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine.

This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published. **S.B.**

THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(CARR HOUSE LANE, WRIGHTINGTON, WEST LANCASHIRE)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any motor vehicle from proceeding over that length of Carr House Lane, Wrightington from its junction with Chisnall Lane for a distance of 40 meters heading in a south direction, in the Borough of West Lancashire.

Carr House Lane – B5250 Wood Lane – Withington Lane – Chisnall Lane and vice versa

The temporary prohibition is necessary to complete some essential overhead line tree cutting maintenance.

The prohibition will be operative from 0900 hours until 1600 hours on Monday 30th November 2015, or until completion of the works within this period.

Authority given for this Order to be made:

Laura Padden, Highway Regulation and Inspection Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/541/HD]

1146321

www.lancashire.gov.uk — Lancashire County Council

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

1146405

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Application No: 2015/1189/FUL Variation of condition No. 2 imposed on planning permission 2007/0935/FUL (added by way of 2015/1082/NMA) to read 'The development hereby approved shall be carried out in accordance with the details of the following plans: proposed plan and elevations - drawing No. 699.PL.01, car park layout – drawing No.699.GA.10 and proposed plan and elevations (office pod) - drawing No. 69.GA.09.' at 69 Jacksmere Lane, Scarisbrick

APPLICATION(S) AFFECTING A CONSERVATION AREA / LISTED BUILDING

Application No: 2015/1102/FUL Demolition of the existing gatehouse and erection of a replacement gatehouse and associated road works at Pilkington Technology Centre, Hall Lane, Lathom.
This does not (or may not) accord with the development plan.
Application No: 2015/1168/FUL Demolition of the existing dwelling at 11 Granville Park, Aughton and the erection of a replacement 2 storey dwelling (with roof space accommodation) and attached garage, boundary treatment and hard and soft landscaping and the relocation of the two existing driveway entrances to create a more central entrance at 11 Granville Park, Aughton

The applications are available for viewing on the Council's web site www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e.mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to the Planning Division, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 21 days of the date of this notice quoting the application no. Any comments made will be available for public inspection.

Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI — Dated: 2nd December 2015
Assistant Director Planning — PDNOT874

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(SANDY LANE, LATHOM, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any motor vehicle from proceeding over that length of Sandy Lane, Lathom from its junction with Dark Lane to a point outside Sandiholme, in the Borough of West Lancashire.

An alternative route for vehicles affected by the closure is as follows

Dark Lane – Lathom Lane – Sandy Lane and vice versa.

The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable utility works to be carried out.

The prohibition will be operative from 0900 hours on Monday 30th November 2015 until 1530 hours on Friday 11th December 2015, or until completion of the works within this period.

Authority given for this Order to be made:

Laura Padden, Highway Regulation and Inspection Manager
Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701

[Ref: HRiT/494/HD]

1146320

www.lancashire.gov.uk — Lancashire County Council

West Lancashire Borough Council
Provision for Traveller Sites Development Plan Document
The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 – Regulation 18

The Borough Council has prepared a draft Provision for Traveller Sites Development Plan Document (DPD) (Options and Preferred Options). The draft DPD sets out the Council's options and preferred options for sites to contribute towards meeting Traveller accommodation needs in West Lancashire. The document also contains a proposed policy against which any planning applications for Traveller sites can be assessed.

The Council is inviting comments on the draft DPD between **Thursday 3 December 2015 and Friday 29 January 2016**. Comments should be submitted in writing by post or email or using the comments form provided by the Council, and must be received no later than 5pm on Friday 29 January 2016.

The Draft DPD and accompanying documents can be viewed on the Borough Council's website at: www.westlancs.gov.uk/planningpolicy. Copies of the documents and comment forms will also be made available at the Borough Council offices at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, and at the Customer Service Point, Skelmersdale, on Mondays to Fridays 9am to 5pm (4.45pm Fridays), and at public libraries across the Borough during their normal opening hours. Paper copies of the DPD may be purchased from the Council for a charge.

Further information is available from the West Lancashire Borough Council Offices, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, West Lancashire, L39 2DF, or by calling the Strategic Planning & Implementation Team on 01695 585274, or by emailing: localplan@westlancs.gov.uk

Dated: 2 December 2015

Directorate of Transformation
John Harrison DipEnvP MRTPI
Assistant Director Planning
West Lancashire Borough Council
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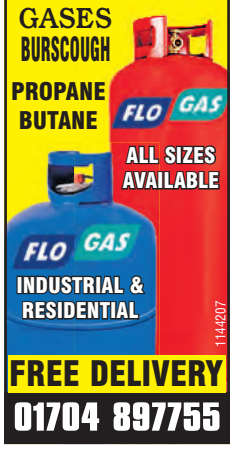
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Mereytravel is using eco–friendly Nissans in both the Mersey tunnels. Code NA

Classic car show relocated to new venue

A NEW YEAR treat for classic car fans has been relocated to a new venue. Traditionally the January 1 show for owners of older cars took place at Briars Hall in Lathom, but it's now going to take place from 10.30am onwards at the Corner House pub in nearby Wrightington. The pub's other monthly meetings for classic car owners have been suspended for the winter until 6 March next year.

The new event replaces the long–running classic car meet at Briars Hall. Code NA

Fiat Spider returns for 2016

FIAT has resurrected the 124 Spider for its return to Britain's sports car market next summer. The new car is loosely based on the Mazda MX–5, but uses the Italian manufacturer's 1.4–litre MultiAir engine.

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06 VAUXHALL

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www.06vauxhall.co.uk

VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 67.3 (4.2), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 80.7 (3.5). CO2 emissions: 324 - 94g/km. Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors.

All finance is subject to status, terms and conditions apply. PCP finance quotes are based on 5,000 miles per annum and on full Vauxhall Partner discount. Associate partners and none partners quotes will vary. Models shown for illustration purposes only. *Terms and conditions apply. All orders must be registered by 15th December.

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2014 (63) MERCEDES VITO 110 CDI, white, Tailgate, bluetooth, electrics ..... **£9995 + VAT**
2014 (63) RENAULT KANGOO 1.5 DCI, side load door, 31,000 miles, white ..... **£5995 +VAT**
2013 (63) FORD TRANSIT DOUBLE CAB TIPPER, low mileage ..... **£15995 + VAT**
2013 (63) CITROEN BERLINGO ENTERPISE, 3 seats, air-con, Sat Nav, Parking sensors, 33,000 miles ..... **£6495 + VAT**
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2013 (63) RENAULT MASTER MM, Metalic Silver, 72,000 miles, 1 owner..... **£8995 + VAT**
2013 (13) VAUXHALL VIVARO SPORTIVE, met black, alloy wheels, air-con, 72,000 miles .. **£7995 +VAT**
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2007 (07) CONNECT TOURNEO T230, metallic silver, wheelchair ramp..... **£3995 NO VAT**
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2005 (05) FORD CONNECT, side door, roof rack, white, ... **£1400 NO VAT**
2005 (05) VAUXHALL COMBO 1.3 CDTI, red, ex post office..... **£600 NO VAT**
2004 (04) CITROEN RELAY SWB, white, long MOT, bargain..... **£1695 NO VAT**
2003 (03) RENAULT MASTER LONG WHEELBASE, white..... **£1795 NO VAT**

CARS

2012 (62) VW PASSAT 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Black/ Alloys 62,000 miles **£7995**
2009 (59) BMW 1 SERIES CONVERTIBLE, 60,000 miles, red leather..... **£8995**
2006 (06) FORD C MAX, 78,000 blue very clean. **£1795**
2001 (51) HYUNDAI COUPE, cheap tidy car to clear **£750**

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Life On Cars
DAVID SIMISTER

HARRY POTTER has led me to some of the best roads in the British Isles.

Well, the makers of the films – and my other half's love of tracking down their locations of choice – did. Head to Hogsmeade railway station and you have to go there via some of the North Yorkshire Moors' more stunning roads. Equally magical for wizard watchers is Malham Cove, which apparently popped up in the first instalment of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows – and meant I had an excuse to drive across the Yorkshire Dales in an MX–5.

It's weird. A movie franchise best known for flying Ford Anglias appears to have been filmed entirely in places car fans love. Which is how I ended up driving along Ireland's further–flung bits of coastline in a rented Renault Clio last week.

I already knew the destination would be pretty spectacular – if the Cliffs of Moher are dramatic enough to appear in a cinema near you, chances are they'll be even more imposing in real life – but two things left a big impression on the way there.

The first is discovering there's a road that threads its way along the Atlantic coastline for mile after mile before twisting and turning through what feels like an eternity of hairpins on its way up to the clifftop – and that it was virtually deserted. It's a bit of Ireland that's wonderfully removed from our rush hour madness, but stick your car on the Liverpool ferry to Dublin tonight and you could be driving it tomorrow afternoon.

Yet the real surprise was the car – that rented Clio. It might have an interior lined with cheap feeling, scratchy plastics but there was nothing low–rent about the way it clung on in tight corners. It just got on with the job with no fuss – track day fans might look elsewhere but in supermini terms I've driven far worse.

It looks good too – gone are the blobby proportions of the old Clio and in are some neat bits of detailing – like those Alfa 156–esque hidden rear door handles. In fact, the only thing I could really fault it on was the lack of oomph from the 1.2–litre petrol engine – 75bhp was more than enough for Galway's tight streets, but it definitely felt like it was made for a smaller stage than Ireland's trickiest roads.

Renault was clearly on a roll when it reinvented the Clio.

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£9,395	£849	£159.95	£3,200	£11,726.60	9.9% REPRESENTATIVE APR*

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AGILA

10 REG VAUXHALL AGILA 1.2 DESIGN 5DR STEEL SILVER, 38323 MILES £3999
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58 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.9 CDTI SRI+ 3DR GREY, 52141 MILES £4999
11 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6I SRI 5DR SOVEREIGN SILVER, 47404 MILES £6999
12 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 EXCITE 5DR WATERWORLD BLUE, 31241 MILES £7799
11 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 CDTI SE 5DR BLACK SAPPHIRE, 59299 MILES £7999
62 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 CDTI ECOFLEX SRI 5DR POWER RED, 39943 MILES £8999
13 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 CDTI SE AUTO ESTATE RED, 21389 MILES £9999
64 REG VAUXHALL ASTRA GTC 1.4T SRI 3DR CARBON FLASH, 11070 MILES £12699
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14 REG VAUKHALL ASTRA GTC 1.7 CDTI ECO SRI 3DR (SS) CARBON FLASH, 6111 MILES £14499
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CASCADA

15 REG VAUXHALL CASCADA 1.4T ELITE 2DR ASTEROID GREY, 13543 MILES £19499
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CORSA

10 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI 3DR SILVER, 41241 MILES £4899
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10 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 ENERGY 5DR SUMMIT WHITE, 37198 MILES £4999
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62 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 ECOFLEX S 3DR FLAME RED 32741 MILES £5999
63 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 STING 3DR LIME GREEN, 8612 MILES £6299
62 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI 5DR (AC) BLACK SAPPHIRE, 20278 MILES £6499
13 REG VAUKHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTI ECO ENERGY 5DR (AC) SOVEREIGN SILVER, 28408 MILES £6999
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15 REG VAUKHALL CORSA 1.2 STING 3DR CARBON FLASH, 10 MILES £7999
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14 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTI ECO LIMITED EDITION 5DR CARBON FLASH, 19557 MILES £9499
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15 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 DESIGN 5DR EMERALD GREEN, 10 MILES £9999
15 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SRI 3DR PEPPERMINT GREEN, 10 MILES £9999
15 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 ECOFLEX SRI 5DR SOVEREIGN SILVER, 7145 MILES £9999
15 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4T ECOFLEX SRI 3DR CARBON FLASH, 2619 MILES £10199
65 REG VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0T DESIGN 5DR CARBON FLASH, 12 MILES £10799

INSIGNIA

58 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI SRI 5DR ASTEROID GREY, 40101 MILES £5999
14 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 SRI 5DR ASTEROID GREY, 31241 MILES £9999
14 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 SRI 5DR SUMMIT WHITE, 34953 MILES £10799
63 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI TECH LINE 5DR SILVER, 31608 MILES £10999
64 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8I VVT DESIGN 5DR BRILLIANT SUMMIT WHITE, 13306 MILES £11999
15 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.4T SRI 5DR (SS) ASTEROID GREY, 10208 MILES £13299
15 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8I VVT SRI NAV 5DR SOVEREIGN SILVER, 6417 MILES £13999
64 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI ECO SRI VX-LINE NAV 5DR (SS) CARBON FLASH, 24935 MILES £13999
64 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI SRI VX-LINE NAV AUTO 5DR POWER RED, 8544 MILES £14499
65 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTI TECH LINE TOURER CARBON FLASH, 8 MILES £14499
65 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 ECOFLEX CDTI TECH LINE CARBON FLASH, 11 MILES £13999
64 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA TOURER 2.0 CDTI VX LINE SRI NAV EMERALD GREEN, 13791 MILES £16999
15 REG VAUXHALL INSIGNIA COUNTRY TOURER 2.0 CDTI 4X4 5DR AUTO BRILLIANT SUMMIT WHITE, 6982 MILES £23999

MERIVA

62 REG VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.4 TURBO SE 5DR SILVER, 31577 MILES £6999

MOKKA

15 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 EXCLUSIV 5DR CARBON FLASH, 12917 MILES £12999
64 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTI EXCLUSIV 5DR CARBON FLASH, 9174 MILES £13699
64 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.4T EXCLUSIV 5DR BORACAY BLUE, 19251 MILES £13699
15 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTI TECH LINE 5DR DEEP ESPRESSO, 9122 MILES £15199
65 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 CDTI TECH LINE VELEVT RED, 11 MILES £14499
65 REG VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 CDTI TECH LINE 5DR VELVET RED, 8 MILES £14499

VIVA

15 REG VAUXHALL VIVA 1.0 SE 5DR BLUE RAY, 10 MILES £7999

ZAFIRA

62 REG VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6 EXCLUSIV 5DR CARBON FLASH, 27922 MILES £7999
62 REG VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.6I EXCLUSIV 5DR BLACK SAPPHIRE, 24156 MILES £8499
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OTHER MARQUES

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63 REG KIA SPORTAGE 1 CRDI 1.6 5DR GLACIAL WHITE, 10368 MILES £13999
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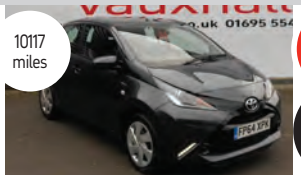
64 Reg Toyota Aygo



£139 DEPOSIT & £139 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£6996	INTEREST CHARGES	£1371.40
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£139	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£8665.40
1 PAYMENT OF	£288.92	APR	8.9%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£139.92		

09 Reg Ford Fiesta

£119 DEPOSIT & £119 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£5996	INTEREST CHARGES	£1175.40
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£119	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£7469.40
1 PAYMENT OF	£268.89	APR	8.9%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£119.89		

13 Reg Vauxhall Meriva

£165 DEPOSIT & £165 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£8299	INTEREST CHARGES	£1626.80
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£165	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£10223.80
1 PAYMENT OF	£314	APR	8.9%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£165		

13 Reg Peugeot 107

£99 DEPOSIT & £99 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£4996	INTEREST CHARGES	£979.40
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£99	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£6273.40
1 PAYMENT OF	£248	APR	8.9%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£99		

13 Reg Vauxhall Corsa

£139 DEPOSIT & £139 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£6496	INTEREST CHARGES	£1271.40
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£139	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£8065.40
1 PAYMENT OF	£298	APR	8.9%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£139		

14 Reg Fiat 500L

£155 DEPOSIT & £155 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£7996	INTEREST CHARGES	£1538.20
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£155	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£9862.20
1 PAYMENT OF	£304	APR	8.9%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£155		

13 Reg Vauxhall Astra Estate

£179 DEPOSIT & £179 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£8996	INTEREST CHARGES	£1763.40
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£179	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£9857.40
1 PAYMENT OF	£328	APR	8.9%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£179		

63 Reg Vauxhall Adam

£149 DEPOSIT & £149 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£7996	INTEREST CHARGES	£1569.40
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£149	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£9863.40
1 PAYMENT OF	£298	APR	8.9%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£149		

06 Vauxhall Ormskirk

13 Reg Chevrolet Spark Ltz

£90 DEPOSIT & £90 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£4599	INTEREST CHARGES	£901.80
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£90	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£5,798.80
1 PAYMENT OF	£239.18	APR	10.2%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£90.18		

62 Reg Volkswagen Up Move Up

£97 DEPOSIT & £97 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£4,996	INTEREST CHARGES	£979.80
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£97	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£6,273.80
1 PAYMENT OF	£246.98	APR	10.0%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£97.98		

63 Reg Vauxhall Astra 1.4i VVT 100ps Energy 5dr

£170 DEPOSIT & £170 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£8,696	INTEREST CHARGES	£1,705.20
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£2170	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£10,699.20
1 PAYMENT OF	£319.52	APR	9.0%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£170.52		

64 Reg Vauxhall Corsa 1.2i SXi A/C 5dr Hatchback

£149 DEPOSIT & £149 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£7,996	INTEREST CHARGES	£1,569.40
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£149	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£9,863.40
1 PAYMENT OF	£298	APR	8.9%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£149		

14 Reg Vauxhall Corsa 1.2i SXi A/C 5dr Hatch

£139 DEPOSIT & £139 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£6,996	INTEREST CHARGES	£1,371.40
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£139	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£8,665.40
1 PAYMENT OF	£288.92	APR	8.9%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£139.92		

13 Reg Vauxhall Astra 1.4i VVT 100PS Energy 5dr

£146 DEPOSIT & £147 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£7,496	INTEREST CHARGES	£1470
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£146	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£9,264
1 PAYMENT OF	£296	APR	9.2%
58 MONTHLY PAYMENTS	£147		

64 Reg Vauxhall Corsa 1.4T 120 Black Edition 3dr

£196 DEPOSIT & £196 PER MONTH

CASH PRICE	£9,999	INTEREST CHARGES	£1,960.60
CUSTOMER DEPOSIT	£196	TOTAL AMOUNT PAYABLE	£12,257.60
1 PAYMENT OF	£345.06	APR	8.8%
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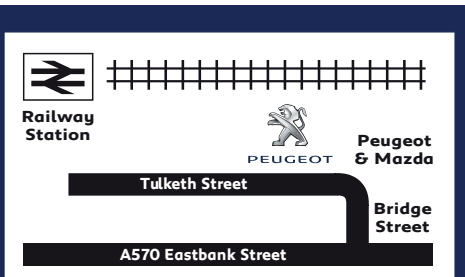

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- USB connection with iPod control

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Soccer star goes back to school

Rachel Brown–Finnis with pupils at St Bede's

A FORMER women's international footballer gave an inspirational talk and coaching session to Year 7 pupils at a local school.

Recently–retired goalkeeper, Rachel Brown–Finnis visited St Bede's Catholic High in Ormskirk as part of the Living for Sport Project run in conjunction with Sky Sports and the Youth Sport Trust.

Rachel, who played for both Liverpool and Everton ladies, was a member of the first–ever Team GB women's football squad for the London Olympics in 2012.

Entertaining clash on cards when rejuvenated Whitby sail into Stormy Corner for league clash

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

SKELMERSDALE United are scheduled to return to league action on Saturday for an Evo–Stik Premier Division match at home to Whitby Town before they head out on the road in cup–tie football again next week at least once – and maybe twice.

That depends on how they got on in last night's (Tuesday) FA Trophy replay against Chorley at Stormy Corner which was only confirmed as being on after a pitch inspection at 2.30pm yesterday.

Meetings between Skem and Whitby are well known for being good ones. The town that gave birth to Captain Cook have a football team that is renowned for playing with a bit of flair, so it should be an entertaining match for the Skelmersdale public on Saturday.

However, the North Yorkshire outfit have been struggling this season and recently parted company with manager Darren Williams.

They have temporarily put defender Lee Bullock in charge, bringing a turnaround in their fortunes on Saturday when they won 4–1 at home to Mickleover Sports.

Next Tuesday (December 8) Skem are due to travel to Bootle for a Liverpool County FA Senior Cup tie.

Apparently, at this stage, Tommy Lawson is intending fielding a fairly strong team for the game but that could well hinge on whether his side have another FA Trophy match the following Saturday.

If Skem have beaten Chorley last night they will go to AFC Fylde in the next round on Saturday, December 12.

If not, they will play Ramsbottom United away.

Whichever opponents are on the agenda there will be a preview in next week's Champion.

Lawson's men defy the odds and heavy pitch to earn second bite in Trophy

Chorley 0 Skelmersdale United 0

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

FACING a bigger and stronger National League North side on their own heavy pitch, which only passed an inspection at 1.45pm, Tommy Lawson's men defied the odds to earn a well–deserved draw in this FA Trophy clash at Chorley's Victory Park on Saturday.

Despite the conditions, Skem played their usual passing game and limited the hosts to a meagre portion of chances, before finishing strongly to set up a replay scheduled to be played at Stormy Corner last night (Tuesday).

The first half saw defences in control, although Chorley had opportunities at either end of the half and Skelmersdale in the middle.

James Dean put a half–chance wide of Skem's near post after former Southport forward Darren Stephenson had fought his way down the left wing in the ninth minute.

And on 24 minutes Ged Kinsella was upended just outside the Chorley 'D' but Louis Corrigan's free–kick was off target.

Last goalmouth action of the half arrived two minutes from the whistle when a Chorley corner from the left was played a couple of times before Andy Teague got in a header that was fairly comfortably dealt with by Skelmersdale goalkeeper Martin Fearon.

After the interval it was expected that Chorley would go on the offensive and they duly did, though one incident apart after Skem had weathered a 20–minute spell, that was it as far as serious threat was concerned.

Chorley did ask more questions of the Skelmersdale defence when they switched from two to three up front on 53 minutes, the Magpies manager Matt Jensen introducing substitute Sam Cosgrove.

And shortly afterwards Fearon pulled off his best save of the match, diving full length to palm a Jake Cottrell shot wide of his righthand post – a particularly good effort as he surely could have only seen the shot very late in a crowded goalmouth.

Both Stephenson and the mobile Cosgrove put efforts wide of the far post as Chorley's pressure got quite intense around the hour mark, but Skelmersdale defended well during this period.

A clearance off the line followed up by a shot against the post gave Tommy Lawson the signal he needed to make changes, Dean the aggressor on both occasions.

The fresh legs gave Skelmersdale more impetus and they started to take advantage of Chorley tiring in the latter stages and the game generally became more stretched.

However, defences ruled until the end and the reality was that the weather conditions were the real winner on the day with both teams struggling to get any rhythm going on the soggy surface – although it must be said it was still a lot better than when Skem last visited a couple of years ago.

Chorley: Ashton, Ross, Lynch (Whitham, 72), Teague, Charnock, Cottrell, Jarvis, Guy (Cosgrove, 53), Dean, Bond, Stephenson Subs (not used): Roscoe, Rittenberg, Rigby.

Skelmersdale United: Fearon, Mooney, Holden, McIntosh, Rendell, Woolcott (Staunton–Turner, 79), Kinsella, Strickland, Almond, Corrigan (Abadaki, 73), Ince (Kusaloka, 90). Subs (not used): Hardwick, Gyimah.

Referee: Peter Gibbons.

Attendance: 559.

Cricket clubs recruit ahead of new season

IT'S not exactly cricket weather outside and the 2016 Liverpool & District Competition might be four months away but that hasn't stopped our local clubs bolstering their squads in readiness for next year's campaign getting underway in April.

In the Premier Division, Ormskirk have signed two players from Southport & Birkdale – Lancashire's 2nd XI batsman Josh Bohannon and all–rounder Scott Lees.

Meanwhile, slow left–armer Tom Hartley will step up from the club's 2nd XI, Liam Hurt has left to join Manchester–based Clifton and Dane Currency will not be returning as their overseas player.

In the First Division, Ainsdale, having lost Adnan Rasool, have moved quickly to sign experienced left arm spinner Martyn Farrell from Ormskirk.

Elsewhere, Paul Walters takes over from Greg Gillespie as skipper of Maghull and his first job will be to try and replace opening bowler Ryan Swiers, who after 11 years at the club, has re–located to Nottingham.

And Burscough have retained Australian Navdeep Aujla and are looking to improve their squad after the club's upcoming annual general meeting.

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